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Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk May 5, 2013 EAST KENT EDITION Issue no 554

Tory grip weakened in 'amazing day' for Ukip

- Nigel Farage hails remarkable results as Ukip come second
- Labour and Lib Dems both fail to make expected gains
- Greens pick up a seat, while Tories lose 26 councillors

SEE INSIDE FOR REACTION AND FULL ROUND-UP OF RESULTS

HERITAGE

Gothic tower's holiday plans

HADLOW Tower is best known as a Gothic folly but after it fell into disrepair, it took a £4.2m refurbishment to give it the kiss of life.

Now it has become a unique holiday rental property, complete with spiral staircase and unrivalled views.

Full details inside. PAGE 3

TRANSPORT

Where to put third crossing?

AS the countdown to a public consultation into plans for a third Thames crossing begins, we take a look at the options and ask which is most likely to emerge triumphant.

As traffic at Dartford and the Blackwall Tunnel increases, we weigh up the pros and cons of each of the options. PAGE 9

ENTERTAINMENT

Dreamland in legal victory

THANET District Council has won its bid to take control of the former Dreamland amusement park site on Margate seafront after winning a legal battle.

It means it should now be all systems go for plans to create a heritage park on the site in the town. PAGE 28

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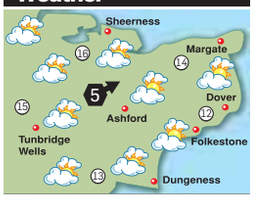

TODAY: A dry day with plenty of warm spring sunshine. Gentle winds. Max temp 13-16C (55-61F). **TONIGHT:** Remaining dry and clear. Min temp 5-8C (41-46F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	08.35	5.8	20.51	5.9
Margate	09.27	4.3	21.46	4.3
St Mary's	01.45	4.8	14.24	4.7

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 18C	Min 7C
Tuesday	Max 18C	Min 7C
Wednesday	Max 17C	Min 6C
Thursday	Max 16C	Min 6C
Friday	Max 17C	Min 7C
Saturday	Max 18C	Min 7C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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WILDLIFE

'Ban' buzzword for our county's beekeepers as EU ruling hits pesticides

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

BEEKEEPERS have welcomed news that pesticides linked with a decline in bee populations are to be banned.

Despite the UK voting against the proposal to halt the use of three types of neonicotinoids, enough member states of the European Union voted in favour for the motion to be passed

The vote means farmers will be forbidden from using three chemicals – clothiandin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam – on "bee-attractive plants and cereals" for a period of two years while the state of the bee population is investigated.

Environment Secretary Owen Paterson remains an opponent of the move, but studies in France and Scotland have shown an 85 per cent fall in queen-bee numbers and a huge increase in bees failing to return to a hive after foraging in areas where the chemicals have been sprayed.

The county's beekeepers say the move is an important step in the race to save bee colonies from being wiped out, so preserving the role they play in pollinating the world's food supply.

Chris Morris runs the Yalding beekeepers group and a shop called Honeybees Etc in the village. He has 60 hives and takes his bees to different locations across west Kent at the request of farmers who require crops to be pollinated.

"I'm pleased this has gone through," he said.

"Bees are in crisis because of a combination of insecticides and the poor weather we have experienced in recent years.

"I started keeping bees aged 13 while still at school. I am 71 now and I cannot remember a time when the bee population faced such a severe threat.

"The cold and wet conditions means hives are about three weeks behind where they should be and I know some beekeepers who have lost half their bees over the winter because of the weather."

Mr Morris said the EU decision would give scientists time to fully investigate the decline in bee populations in western Europe.

"I know a link between the substances and the loss of hives has not been fully proven, but the scientific evidence shows such a strong connection I don't know why the Government is not supporting the ban."

Roger Thompson, of the Thanet Beekeepers, added: "I hope this is going to help – pollinating insects need to be protected as they are such a vital part of the food process."

The ban means the chemicals cannot be used on crops such as corn, oilseed rape and sunflowers.

LITTLE WORKER'S BIG INFLUENCE

When a bee visits a flower to forage for nectar, some of the flower's pollen rubs off the stamens on to its body.

The bee then moves on to another flower and some of the pollen on the bee's body is transferred to the stigma, thus pollinating the flower.

When a bee starts foraging from a particular type of flower, it will visit only that type of flower for as long as it can. This behaviour means that pollen is always delivered to the correct variety of flower.

Pollination is important because a plant will not develop seeds or fruit if the flower is not pollinated. If the crop plants are not pollinated, the crops will fail.

It is estimated that one-third of the food that is consumed in the UK each day relies on pollination.

Many flowering food crops in the UK rely on bees, for example apples, pears, field beans, runner and dwarf beans, broad beans, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries and oilseed rape.

Even if a crop is not directly pollinated by a bee, it still benefits indirectly from being in an environment in which bees are working, due to the increased biodiversity.

HERITAGE

Sunken German bomber to be lifted to the surface

WORK has begun on raising a rare German bomber aircraft from the English Channel.

The Dornier 17 plane, which lies on the Goodwin Sands off Deal, is believed to be the only existing example of the aircraft left in the world.

It took part in dogfights during the Second World War before being shot down. The restoration project, spearheaded by the RAF Museum in Hendon, is expected to take two years.

Peter Dye, from the museum, said: "We now stand on the brink of bringing the sole surviving German bomber from the Blitz back to the very city that Hitler had once hoped to bring to its knees."

POLICE

Cable thieves cause £15k damage at water plant

METAL thieves have caused £15,000 damage to a water-company site near Tunbridge Wells.

More than 600 metres of electricity cable was taken from the premises of Southern Water in Broom Lane, Langton Green, between 5pm on April 24 and 8am on April 29.

Police say the cables would have been extremely heavy, suggesting the culprits had the ability to cut them into smaller parts and load them on to a truck.

Insp Nikki Faulconbridge said: "Because of the tools and equipment required to carry out a crime such as this, this would not have been an opportunistic or unplanned offence."

CRIME

Police question man over two Chatham robberies

A MAN aged 28 has been arrested and questioned by police over two robberies in Chatham.

He was arrested on Thursday, just hours after the police took the unusual step of naming and publishing photographs of a man they wanted to question about the two incidents, which took place earlier in the week.

The first was a robbery at the Co-operative food store in Pattens Lane on Tuesday (April 30). The second was at the William Hill bookmakers on Ordnance Street the following day.

At the time of going to press on Friday, the man remained in police custody. Officers thanked the public for their response to the appeal.

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HERITAGE

Escape reality in a fantasy tower

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A UNIQUE landmark has been renovated into a fairy-tale style holiday home after a multi-million pound project – but don't expect a night in its plush surroundings to come cheap.

Looking rather like a Gothic space rocket, the 18th century Hadlow Tower is the tallest folly in Britain and has now been painstakingly restored to its former glory at a cost of £4.2 million after falling into disrepair.

But a two night break in August will cost nearly £900 – and five nights in peak season almost £1,400.

However, historic buildings preservation group the Vivat Trust, which is renting it out, say bookings are flooding in as holidaymakers look to sample its unique atmosphere – and gaze out across the beautiful countryside from its 64 metre high summit.

"It's a complete fantasy," said Bronwyn Neal of the trust. "We have had masses of interest because of the unique history and the way it has been restored. The decoration is fabulous and the views must be the best in Kent."

The tower's history dates back to 19th-century industrialist Walter Barton May, who lived in a nearby manor. Legend has it, he thought his wife was having an affair with a local farmer. So in an effort to ensure she would never escape his sight he ordered the construction of the tower that soars above the surrounding landscape so he could survey the entire area at his leisure.

It was built in 1838 by George Ledwell Taylor, who was also the architect responsible for Sheerness Dockyard.

While it looks like it is constructed of stone from a distance, it is in fact a brick structure, made of Roman cement – a durable clay and lime mix that Mr Taylor had used on his dockside buildings because of its durability.

"The same material was used in the restoration work," said Ms Neal. "It's the first time it has been used on a building in many years."

In World War Two it was used as an observation post, but the adjoining manor house was dismantled in the 1950s. Since then it has been put to use as an experimental artists' commune and a German pornographer's film studio.

But the Great Storm of 1987 threatened to topple its peak, which was taken down as a result and the building left in a ruinous state.

After a campaign by the Save Hadlow Tower Action Group – which raised £20,000 in donations – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council issued a compulsory purchase order in 2008, and three years later handed the building over to Vivat on a long-term lease.

The work was funded by £2.6m from the Heritage Lottery Fund, as well as money from English Heritage and others.

A lift, hidden behind double oak doors, has been inserted into one of the tower's buttresses to carry guests between the levels – from the reception at the base to the master bedroom four floors above.

Three bedrooms and three bathrooms, as well as a kitchen and dining room, have been squeezed into the structure, while a new steel staircase rises to the summit, with 101 vertigo-inducing steps winding around the tower.

STUNNING: One hundred and one steps are a rather remarkable sight as they wind up the tower, which is four storeys high and has been beautifully restored to be used as a holiday home

DEATH

Uni mourns hotel death

A STUDENT found dead with her boyfriend in the swimming pool of a plush hotel was a second-year nursing student at Canterbury Christ Church University, it has emerged.

Josephine Foday, 22, from Chatham, and her partner Komba Kpakiwa, 31, from Erith, were found floating in the pool of the four-star Down Hall Country House Hotel in Hatfield Heath, Essex last weekend. Their deaths are not being treated as suspicious. A university spokesman said: "She was a pleasure to teach and know."

ENTERTAINMENT

Radio 1 live at school

BBC Radio 1's breakfast show came live from Maidstone on Thursday morning, as DJ Nick Grimshaw took his popular slot on the road.

The DJ is visiting a host of venues in the run-up to the station's Big Weekend event in Derry-Londonderry later this month.

He broadcast his show from Valley Park School in front of a specially invited audience.

HEALTH

Measles jab warning

HEALTH experts are urging parents across the county to ensure their children are immunised against measles, in a bid to avoid any repetition of the outbreak seen in Wales.

Thousands aged between 10 and 16 did not have the full MMR vaccination to protect against measles, mumps and rubella and it is essential they are now protected.

COMPETITION

Test your writing skills in our challenge

ENTRIES have already started coming in for the 100-word story competition, after it officially launched on Wednesday.

We have teamed up with Kent County Council to promote and help judge the contest which coincides with National Share a Story Month.

While writing a novel can be an 80,000-word challenge, this is a far shorter one – to write a story in no more than 100 words.

There are four age categories (School Year 2 and under, Year 3 to Year 6, Year 7 to Year 11, and adults) and the winner of each will win a £50 book voucher while the two runners-up in each category will win £10 book vouchers.

The winners will be announced in mid-June, with all the finalists invited to an awards ceremony. Category winners will see their stories printed in the pages of KoS and broadcast on BBC Radio Kent.

What you write about is up to you, as long as it fits the challenging word limit.

■ **You can submit your entry at www.kent.gov.uk/100words or by post, including your name, contact details and age category, by sending it to: 100 Word Stories c/o Business Support Team, Kent County Council, County Hall, County Road, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ. The closing date is May 31.**

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RISE AND FALL: From left, KCC leader Paul Carter, ousted Mike Whiting, Ukip leader Nigel Farage and beaten Keith Ferrin

POLITICS

Bloodied but not beaten, Tories remain in power as Ukip sees support soar high

Remarkable local elections redefine county's political landscape as County Hall takes a shift to the right in the light of big Ukip gains, while Labour left pondering where its 'revival' went

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By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

IN A day of high political drama, Ukip emerged from the shadows to become the Conservative Party's main opposition in the corridors of power at County Hall.

The local election results for Kent County Council were always difficult to call, but few can have expected Ukip to make such in-roads.

Before Thursday's polls opened, the Conservatives had a stranglehold on power – holding 71 of the 84 available seats and underlining the county's reputation as being true blue.

But by Friday night they were, if not bloodied, then certainly bruised, losing 26 seats and only confirming their majority with a handful of seats remaining.

Along the way they lost some big names. Education chief Mike Whiting fell, as did Keith Ferrin, the longest-serving Tory on the council.

In truth, the party remains all-conquering, but it was the erosion of its support and the distribution of votes to the other main parties that painted such a fascinating new political landscape for the county.

For Ukip it was a day of remarkable triumph.

It wooed supporters with a focus on immigration and played the anti-European card. It clearly struck a chord.

Critics, however, were swift to utter the phrase 'protest votes' and question if any such swing in their direction would occur when selecting candidates for Westminster. That remains to be seen.

What is certain is that the party, led by Westerham's Nigel Farage, are now major players in the county's political scene. The party ended the day with 17 seats – a gain of 16.

While Ukip supporters will be celebrating, Labour were left scratching their heads as to just where its much-touted revival disappeared.

Although it gained 10 seats – rising from three to 13 – it was still a long way short of the 20-plus total that party big-wigs had been hoping for.

And that was despite the likes of leader Ed Miliband and Harriet Harman visiting the county on the campaign trail.

With the Liberal Democrats remaining on seven seats, it torpedoed any hopes of a centre-left coalition being formed to create a credible opposition to the Conservatives, a situation both Labour and the Lib Dems had admitted prior to polling day they were open to discussing.

The Champagne was flowing only for one party, however. A delighted Mr Farage told KoS: "This is a sea change in British politics – an amazing day. We have made big, big bridgeheads in Kent today and we are connecting with good and decent people.

"We have been talking about the issue of Romanians and Bulgarians coming here, but the Government have been covering their ears and stamping their feet."

Kent County Council leader Paul Carter admitted that nerves had been on edge.

He told KoS: "I think the best description of how I am feeling is 'relieved' in capital letters.

"The last two hours at the count were so tense, but we got over the line.

"I recalibrated our share of the vote after canvassing in east Kent and thought we might be below 50 seats, and so it has proven.

"The Government now has to do a lot of very serious thinking as the electorate has spoken. There are big issues they have to face such as our relationship with Europe and of course there is the economy.

"The pound in everyone's pocket is shrinking and people are feeling the pinch."

In truth, the Conservative victory was relatively comfortable. They finished the day with 45 seats – 28 ahead of their nearest rivals.

But having gone into the day holding an incredible 71 seats, to leave it so late in the day to confirm control of the council was remarkable. With the first results flowing in from around 10am, it was not until just before 4pm, with only a handful of seats to go, that the Conservatives secured the 43 seats they needed for a working majority.

Cllr Carter said: "I suspect that a significant number of our new Ukip colleagues are closet Conservatives and we need to establish a relationship with them and understand what their issues are.

"But we do have a majority. So we intend to continue protecting front-line services and putting forward brave and bold policies and do all we can to support people and their families.

"We will have some modest celebrations as we have got over the line, but there will be a lot of conversation this weekend within the team. I knew it was going to be close and so it proved."

The Labour leader on the council, Gordon Cowan, said: "Ukip could only go one way and that was up as they never really were on the map in the county before.

"It's a protest vote against the Tory-led coalition. It will be interesting to see how Ukip copes with issues such as social care for adults, education and potholes."

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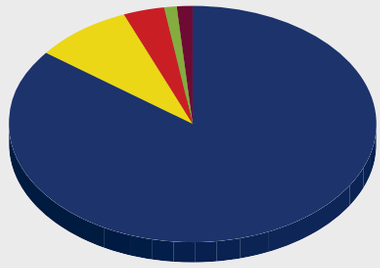
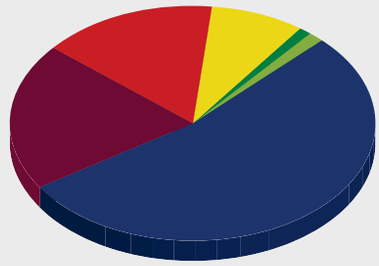
FULL RESULTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTY FOR THE 2013 KENT COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS



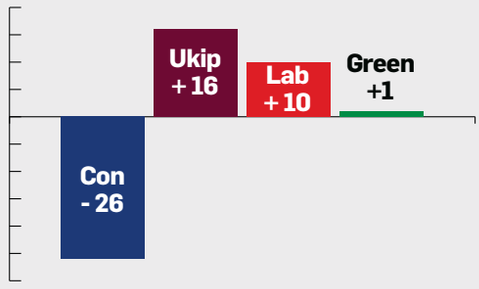


Prior to May 2 election

- Conservatives ..... 71 seats
- Liberal Democrats ..... 7 seats
- Labour ..... 3 seats
- Swanscombe Residents ..... 1 seat
- Ukip ..... 1 seat

After May 2 election

- Conservatives ..... 45 seats
- Ukip ..... 17 seat
- Labour ..... 13 seats
- Liberal Democrats ..... 7 seats
- Swanscombe Residents ..... 1 seat
- Green Party ..... 1 seat



Rise and fall

- Conservatives ..... -26
- Ukip ..... +16
- Labour ..... +10
- Liberal Democrats ..... same
- Swanscombe ..... same
- Green Party ..... +1

ASHFORD

Ashford Central CON HOLD
Elizabeth Tweed (Con)

Ashford East LIB DEM HOLD
George Koowaree (Lib Dem)

Ashford Rural East CON HOLD
Andrew Wickham (Con)

Ashford Rural South CON HOLD
Mike Angell (Con)

Ashford Rural West CON HOLD
Charlie Simkins (Con)

Ashford South LAB GAIN
Derek Smythe (Lab)

Tenterden CON HOLD
Sue Ferguson (Con)

CANTERBURY

Canterbury City North East CON HOLD
Graham Gibbens (Con)

Canterbury City South West LIB DEM HOLD
Martin Vye (Lib Dem)

Canterbury South East CON HOLD
Michael Northey (Con)

Canterbury West CON HOLD
John Simmonds (Con)

Herne and Sturry CON HOLD
Alan Marsh (Con)

Herne Bay UKIP GAIN TWO
David Hirst (Con)
Jean law (Con)

Whitstable CON HOLD TWO
Brian MacDowall (UKIP)
Nickolas Bond (UKIP)

DARTFORD

Dartford East CON HOLD
Penny Cole (Con)

Dartford North East LAB GAIN
Tom Madison (Lab)

Dartford Rural CON HOLD
Jeremy Kite (Con)

Dartford West CON HOLD
Jan Ozog (Con)

Swanscombe and Greenhithe SGRA HOLD
Richard Lees
(Swanscombe Greenhithe Residents Association)

Wilmington CON HOLD
Ann Allen (Con)

DOVER

Deal LAB GAIN TWO
Michael Eddy (Lab)
Eileen Rowbotham (Lab)

Dover North CON HOLD
Steve Manion (Con)

Dover Town LAB GAIN and HOLD
Pam Brivio (Lab)
Gordon Cowan (Lab)

Dover West CON HOLD
Geoff Lymer (Con)

Sandwich CON HOLD
Leyland Ridings (Con)

GRAVESHAM

Gravesham East LAB GAIN TWO
Colin Caller (Lab)
Jane Cribbon (Lab)

Gravesham Rural CON HOLD
Bryan Sweetland (Con)

Northfleet and Gravesend West LAB GAIN and HOLD
Sue Howes (Lab)
Narinderjit Thandi (Lab)

MAIDSTONE

Maidstone Central LIB DEM HOLD
Rob Bird (Lib Dem)
Dan Daley (Lib Dem)

Maidstone North East LIB DEM HOLD
Ian Chittenden (Lib Dem)

Maidstone Rural Eas CON HOLD
Jenny Whittle (Con)

Maidstone Rural North CON HOLD
Paul Carter (Con)

Maidstone Rural South CON HOLD
Eric Hotson (Con)

Maidstone Rural West CON HOLD
Paulina Stockell (Con)

Maidstone South LIB DEM GAIN
Brian Clark (Lib Dem)

Maidstone South East CON HOLD
Gary Cooke (Con)

SEVENOAKS

Darent Valley CON HOLD
Roger Gough (Con)

Sevenoaks Central CON HOLD
Margaret Crabtree (Con)

Sevenoaks East CON HOLD
Nick Chard (Con)

Sevenoaks North East CON HOLD
David Brazier (Con)

Sevenoaks South CON HOLD
Clive Pearlman (Con)

Sevenoaks West CON HOLD
Richard Parry (Con)

Swanley CON HOLD
Robert Brookbank (Con)

SHEPWAY

Elham Valley CON HOLD
Susan Carey (Con)

Folkestone North East UKIP GAIN
Frank McKenna (UKIP)

Folkestone South UKIP GAIN
Bob Neaves (UKIP)

Folkestone West UKIP GAIN
Hod Birkby (UKIP)

Hythe GREEN GAIN
Martin Whybrow (Green)

Romney Marsh UKIP GAIN
David Baker (UKIP)

SWALE

Faversham CON HOLD
Tom Gates (Con)

Sheerness LAB GAINS
Angela Harrison (Lab)

Sheppey UKIP GAIN
Adrian Crowther (UKIP)

Swale Central LAB GAIN & UKIP GAIN
Roger Truelove (Lab)
Lee Burgess (UKIP)

Swale East CON HOLD
Andrew Bowles (Con)

Swale West UKIP GAIN
Mike Baldock (UKIP)

THANET

Birchington and villages UKIP GAIN
Roger Latchford (UKIP)

Broadstairs and Sir Moses Montefiore UKIP GAIN TWO
Alan Terry (UKIP)
Zita Wlltshire (UKIP)

Margate and Cliftonville UKIP GAIN and LAB GAIN
Mo Elenor (UKIP)
Will Scobie (Lab)

Margate West UKIP GAIN
Jeffrey Elenor (UKIP)

Ramsgate UKIP GAIN TWO
Trevor Shonk (UKIP)
Martyn Heale (UKIP)

TONBRIDGE& MALLING

Malling Central LIB DEM HOLD
Trudy Dean (Lib Dem)

Malling North CON HOLD
Sarah Hohler (Con)

Malling Rural East CON HOLD
Matthew Balfour (Con)

Malling Rural North East CON HOLD
Peter Homewood (Con)

Malling West CON HOLD
Valerie Dagger (Con)

Tonbridge CON HOLD
Christopher Smith (Con)
Richard Long (Con)

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Cranbrook CON HOLD
Sean Holden (Con)

Tunbridge Wells East UKIP GAIN
Christopher Hoare (UKIP)

Tunbridge Wells North CON HOLD
Peter Oakford (Con)

Tunbridge Wells Rural CON HOLD
Alex King (Con)

Tunbridge Wells South CON HOLD
James Scholes (Con)

Tunbridge Wells West CON HOLD
John Davies (Con)

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COMPETITION

Name the goats to win free tickets to Kent Life

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

WITH their long, floppy ears these two baby Nubian goats are set to prove a big hit with the thousands who flock to one of the county's top tourist attractions.

But so far the two boys don't have names – which is where you could help.

Rural heritage attraction Kent Life, at Sandling, near Maidstone is now urging all of KoS' younger readers to put on their thinking hats and come up with suitable names.

What's more, for every child who sends in their suggestions as to what the Nubian kids should be called, they'll get free entry to the attraction.

The child who comes up with the name Kent Life bosses think is the best will walk away with an annual family membership.

Marketing manager Sarah Hirsch said: "These adorable kids still don't have names so we thought it would be a great idea to invite the county's children to come up with some ideas.

"Every youngster aged three to 15 years who suggests names for both kids will receive a 'Kids Go Free' voucher for Kent Life. The lucky child who comes up with the names we think are the best will win an annual family membership pass for two children and two adults.

"The pass entitles our winner and their family to virtually unlimited visits for 12 months, along with a host of other great benefits."

The winner will also get free adoption of both goats for a year, which includes a ready-to-frame photo of their new furry friends, plus a Kent Life adoption certificate.

■ To enter your suggestions, simply email them, along with your name, age, address and a phone number for your parents or guardian to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk and put 'goats' in the subject line. Alternatively, write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS.

The closing date is May 10.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Graduate snaps up national success

THIS stunning image of two tigers fighting has secured a Kent university photography graduate a major national award.

Dan Sakal, who graduated from the University for the Creative Arts at Maidstone last year, won the Daily Telegraph's Big Picture competition.

Mr Sakal, 22, who lives in Colchester, said: "This could really help kick-start my career as it will help get my name noticed and hopefully lead to more people wanting to buy my photos."

He captured the winning image of two tigers play fighting while travelling in Thailand.

He added: "I took this at a tiger sanctuary, they get really excited and playful.

"This is just one of a series of shots, but I liked it the best because of the angle and symmetry of everything.

"Studying at UCA has made me look differently at the way I shoot: my confidence has improved and I can quickly adapt to capture an image."

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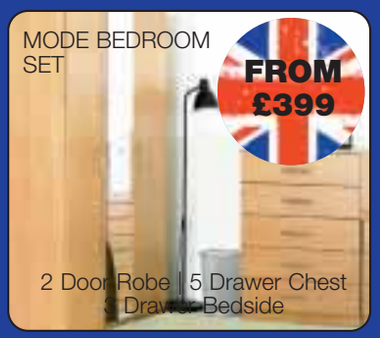

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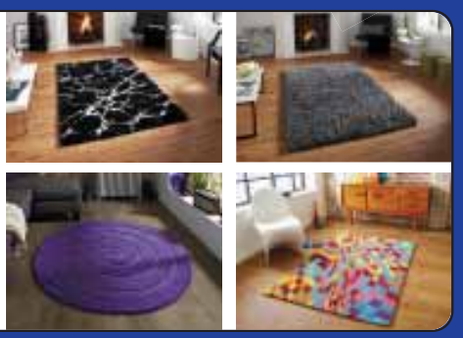

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REGENERATION

Troubled waters over where third Thames crossing may be built

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

IN just over a month's time the controversial consultation into a third Thames crossing will begin in a bid to find a solution to easing congestion at traditional pinch points, the Dartford Crossing and Blackwall Tunnel.

But with three options on the table and Kent's authorities in disagreement on which one should be chosen, it's unlikely to be an easy process.

Yet a solution is required. The increasing traffic from the Continent and need to access both London and the rest of the UK means the issue cannot be ignored.

While free-flow tolls, due to be introduced at Dartford in 2014, are likely to ease the build-up of traffic, highways chiefs believe the only real solution is a third river crossing (see box for all options).

Yet all come with baggage and a ready made chorus of opposition.

Leader of Dartford Borough Council, Jeremy Kite, is adamant there should be no new crossing in Dartford.

He said: "The first option at Dartford itself doesn't deal with the number one item here; which is resilience and jams.

"It may increase capacity, but if there is an accident on either side of the junctions then that's what causes the massive tailbacks to the M25. All it is doing is allowing larger degrees of traffic through the same hole."

The Tory member also said the proposed site for a Paramount theme park near Swanscombe would rule out option two.

"The people behind Paramount made it absolutely clear they do not want a crossing through their site and it would effectively scupper the proposal.

"I don't think the Government wants to play fast and loose with 27,000 jobs and £2 billion of investment. So that is probably a no."

Of the three options, Cllr Kite said he would go for the Gravesham crossing "because it is far enough away from the original bridge" meaning traffic that doesn't want to go towards central London can bypass it.

But he did offer a different alternative.

"There are areas where regeneration, further down the estuary, would be very welcome.

"I think when you look at places like Swale and Sheppey and the other side like Canvey, there is a case for saying 'let's be braver, let's do something which is perhaps combined with flood control, and let's do it further up the estuary'.

"I accept it is more expensive, and I am sure there are lots of technical problems involved.

"All I know is if you are asking me about ideal locations I would probably say that."

In 2014, the barrier toll booths that currently sit at the Dartford Crossing will be removed in a bid to ease congestion. Crossing won't be free; instead using a similar billing method used to police the London congestion zone.

Dartford MP Gareth Johnson believes any decision on a new crossing should be made after these are removed.

He said: "I would like to see what impact that has on the area and traffic flows.

"I think it will be very difficult to tell what the traffic demands are going to be in this particular area until we see what the knock-on effect will be after removing the toll booths.

"It's fair to say Dartford's had its fair share of the impact that comes from a river crossing, so therefore I would not support another Dartford crossing."

The Department for Transport is due to announce a date for the consultation process, but it has been outlined as the end of May or beginning of June.

Kent County Council's highways chief Bryan Sweetland said: "The Government will plan it, the Government will fund it and the Government will build it. And when the time comes KCC will debate it and come up with a view.

"Most importantly, is why they are going to build a new crossing. For instance, they might say 'we want to alleviate the congestion at the existing Dartford Crossing'.

"If that's their objective then that would lean towards just putting another bridge at Dartford.

"If that's all they want to do, then it's a cost effective and fairly cheap way of doing it."

Cllr Sweetland is also a member of Gravesham Borough Council and has his own personal view.

"I am not in support of a crossing from Gravesham as it will be hugely environmentally damaging. A lot of it would be building on precious green belt land and it is something I would never support."

■ What do you think? Share your views with our readers. Write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

THE OPTIONS

- **Option one:** Would see a crossing erected close to the current A282 Dartford to Thurrock link to allow for greater capacity to cross the river.
- **Option two:** The connection of the A2 at Swanscombe with the A1089 in Tilbury Essex.
- **Option three:** From the east of Gravesham – a crossing connecting the M2 in Kent to the A13 in Essex and the M25.

LONG ROAD: Congestion at the Dartford tolls are one of the reasons behind the need for a third crossing over the Thames

CRIME

Zone hits trouble spot

A DISPERSAL zone for the centre of Lydd went live on Wednesday and will stay in force until September, in a bid to crack down on anti-social behaviour.

It gives police the power to move on groups causing problems and return youngsters under-16 to their homes.

It follows a spate of incidents in and around the Coronation Square area caused by teenagers.

POLICING

Assistant chief joins

ROB Price has been appointed assistant chief constable of Kent Police - joining the force from a similar role in Surrey.

Kent Police's Chief Constable Ian Learmonth said: "Rob was appointed after a tough selection process, with five strong candidates.

"He has a wealth of operational policing experience which is suited to meet the challenges in Kent over the next few years."

He previously worked for Surrey Police.

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ANIMAL WELFARE

Dover MP describes resumption of live exports as 'step backwards for animal welfare and port'

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

LIVE animal exports resumed from the Port of Dover on Thursday, after a ship at the centre of the controversial trade was given the green light to operate a ferry service from the port.

But it has been slammed by critics who oppose the trade, with Dover MP Charlie Elphicke describing it as a "step backwards for animal welfare and the port".

It is expected the MV Joline, operated by Dutch firm Barco de Vapor, will operate a weekly service taking live animals to Calais in a journey which will take around three hours.

It follows a number of berthing trials and modifications to the vessel.

It will replace a service which had been operating out of Ramsgate.

Campaigners are fiercely opposed to the trade, arguing it is more humane to slaughter the animals in UK abbatoirs before shipping them abroad – a practice known as 'on the hook not the hoof'.

They say the animals go through unnecessary stress as a result of the long ferry crossing and have already vowed to picket the port's Eastern Docks if the trade began again.

Dover Harbour Board (DHB) confirmed the service would begin again just hours befor the first journey, stressing they had an obligation to allow the legal trade to operate from the port.

It will be subject to weather limitations with the ferry not operating in extreme conditions.

A DHB spokesman said: "Barco de Vapor has indicated its principal business will be the carriage of livestock transporters which is in itself a legal trade.

"The High Court has previously made it clear that DHB must facilitate all legal trades through its port.

"The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is responsible for arranging the conduct of all necessary animal welfare checks by its regulatory agency, the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA), throughout the duration of the service in order to ensure that all of its requirements are met.

"DHB respects the positions of all concerned about this particular trade and hopes that the significantly shorter sea crossing from Dover, when compared with other ports, will at least bring some relative benefit for the welfare of the animals in the transporters."

■ **What do you think of the trade? Is sailing from Dover an improvement or still unacceptable?**

Share your views by writing to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

STOPPED LORRY LEAD TO DEATH OF 46 SHEEP

IN the last 12 months the MV Jolene made 25 trips from the Port of Ramsgate – in addition to one from Ipswich – each time loaded with hundreds of sheep.

Throughout that time, the trade was fiercely criticised by protestors and animal welfare groups.

In one incident, a lorry was stopped carrying some 500 sheep and the animals considered unfit to travel. The flock were taken off the lorry and herded into an area which collapsed, causing two of the sheep to fall into the sea and drown.

In total 46 sheep died, as 42 had to be put down as they were lame and two suffered broken legs.

The incident forced the trade to be suspended and prompted Thanet District Council to mount a legal challenge in keeping the ban, but a High Court ruling insisted the animal exports must be continued.

CCTV captured teenager's vicious attack on pet dog

A TEENAGER captured on CCTV savagely kicking and stamping on a dog in Gravesend was just one of the 62 people convicted of animal cruelty across the county last year.

The youth was banned for life from keeping animals, in a year which saw the number of those convicted of cruelty to animals rise from 49 in 2011. The RSPCA gained 211 convictions in 2012, with many of the 62 offenders guilty of multiple charges.

CCTV footage showed the 17-year-old from the Sutton area beating his father's elderly German shepherd Blaze and repeatedly dragging the animal to the ground. He stamped on it and kicked it as it cowered from him.

RSPCA inspector Vikki Dawe, who investigated the case said: "This video footage was heartbreaking to see – the violence was horrific."

A CCTV operator was monitoring the camera in the Gravesend area at the time and called the police. Blaze was later examined by a vet who said the dog was suffering from bruising.

The teenager was charged with causing the female animal unnecessary suffering and inflicting violent physical trauma.

In September 2012, he pleaded guilty at Dartford Youth Court.

The court heard that when the teenager's father watched the footage of his son kicking the dog he said he would never let the youth have contact with the animal again.

The teenager was sentenced to 12 weeks in custody, suspended for 18 months. He was also ordered to go to an attendance centre for 24 hours, pay £750 in costs and given a curfew from 8.30pm to 6am for 12 weeks.

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HOSPITALITY

Major hotel stuns guests as it confirms it will close for up to 'two years' for renovation

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

THE Brew House Hotel in Tunbridge Wells has confirmed it is to shut for two years – forcing customers who have already booked with the venue to be moved elsewhere.

The boutique hotel, on Warkwick Park, close to the Pantiles, says it is closing as a result of needing to go under extensive redevelopment work.

But it has left some customers fuming.

One couple, who wished to remain anonymous, contacted KoS to say they had booked the honeymoon suite in July for their wedding – only to this week learn of the hotel's closure.

They say they have been left stranded as no nearby hotels have similar accomodation available.

Chief operating officer for the hotel, Louise Clark, said: "We will be closing the hotel temporarily from June 1 for up to two years as we have now been granted planning permission by the council to redevelop and refurbish it. We have notified all customers who have booked rooms with us after this date. We appreciate this causes inconvenience, especially to those celebrating special occasions, and we have offered to help them find alternative accommodation elsewhere."

TIME FOR A CHANGE: The Brew House Hotel will next month close for up to two years for refurbishment

Owned by the Markerstudy Group, which is based in the town, Ms Clark added: "The plans involve the redevelopment of modern buildings in a style more in keeping with the area's historic buildings. It will also create a further 24 hotel bedrooms."

GOODBYE EDDIE GILBERT'S

Top food critic Jay Rayner has paid tribute to popular Ramsgate fishmonger and restaurant group Eddie Gilbert's after it closed its doors for the last time this week.

A notice on the door of the popular restaurant this week confirmed that the company had gone into administration after six years in operation.

The writer told KoS: "What can I say?

"It is a huge shame. I would have included them in my list of best restaurants."

Mr Rayner was a big fan of the King Street eatery after reviewing it for the Guardian in 2010.

Eddie Gilbert's lost its founder Jonny Dunhill to cancer, aged just 49, in February 2012 and has since been run by his brother Mark.

Mr Dunhill moved down to Thanet from London almost 12 years ago and in 2007 took the decision to create the popular fishmongers which specialised in locally-sourced seafood.

The restaurant followed quickly afterwards, gaining widespread accolades and glowing reviews with national headlines.

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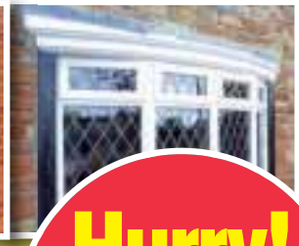

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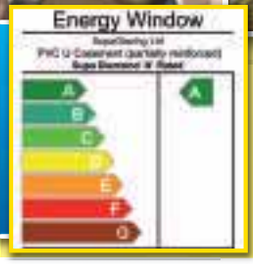

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CAMPAIGN

Opposition to estuary airport grows after MP's questionnaire reveals scale of local discontent

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

MORE than 95 per cent of those responding to a survey conducted by MP Mark Reckless have come out in opposition to controversial plans for a multi-million pound international hub airport in the Thames Estuary.

The MP for Rochester and Strood sent out around 10,000 questionaires to constituents on the Hoo Peninsula gauging their opinion on the plans, proposed as a possible solution to the south east's aviation capacity.

So far 3,700 have been returned, with the vast majority opposing the plans.

Now he intends to extend his 'No Estuary Airport' campaign to the whole of his constituency.

This weekend, Mr Reckless will be leading teams of volunteers going door to door with a petition across much of the Hoo Peninsula calling on households who have yet to return their ballot.

The MP said: "Estimates of the cost of building a new airport in the Thames Estuary range from £70-100 billion, which could add £50 to the cost of every plane ticket sold.

"The airlines don't want it, residents in west London who would lose their jobs don't want it, and now we can conclusively say that residents on the Hoo Peninsula, those who would be most impacted, don't want it."

And further opposition to the plan has come from an influential cross-party watchdog which says it is unnecessary as existing aviation facilities are not being used to their full capacity.

The London Assembly has the task of holding the capital's mayor Boris Johnson – the leading supporter of an airport off the north Kent coast – to account.

NO Estuary Airport

London Mayor Boris Johnson has become synonymous with plans for a Thames Estuary airport after promoting his idea of a site based on reclaimed land in the estuary. It was dubbed 'Boris Island'.

He has also supported similar schemes – most notable of which was proposed by architect Lord Foster for a site on Hoo.

There has been fierce local criticism of all the proposals - including this newspaper which has backed the campaign against the plans. The main concerns are the destruction of huge swathes of north Kent coastline and the transformation of much of the area into providing the necessary infrastructure to support it.

GRAND PLAN: Airport could cost almost £100bn

The elected body is now questioning the viability of a new airport on the grounds of cost and environmental damage as it recommends greater use be made of existing aviation facilities.

The Transport Committee's report, Airport Capacity in London, says even Heathrow – at 99 per cent runway capacity – might potentially fly an additional 20 million passengers every year if larger aircraft were used.

New research commissioned by the assembly on the usage of London's airports shows that Stansted Airport has 47 per cent of runway slots available while Luton Airport has 51 per cent unused capacity.

Even busy Gatwick Airport has 12 per cent of runway slots currently available

The report says: "It would appear some options such as building a new runway at Gatwick and/or Stansted are more viable than building a new airport in the Thames Estuary.

Caroline Pidgeon, chair of the committee, said: "Evidence we received shows the Airport Commission must examine whether better use of existing airport capacity could be an intelligent cost-effective alternative to building new airports or runways.

"The need for additional hub capacity is also under debate, with strong data showing rather than runway capacity limiting airlines ability to fly to emerging markets, it could be low passenger demand from each airport's geographical area.

Mr Reckless agreed with the findings

He said: "As the assembly report says, existing airport capacity is under-used. It would be far cheaper and more efficient to run a cross-rail service from Ebbsfleet to Stratford, which has almost half its capacity unused. Journey time would be just half-an-hour."

Joan Darwell of environmental group Friends of the North Kent Marshes added: "We have long been of the opinion that better use should be made of the existing infrastructure and there is no need for any expansion."

TRAVEL

Eurostar anticipating a picture perfect bank holiday weekend

HIGH-SPEED cross-Channel rail firm Eurostar says it is expecting the bank holiday weekend to be its busiest of the year.

And to mark the event, it has created a Van Gogh-like painting of the service rushing through the French countryside (pictured).

More than 100,000 passengers are set to use the service, which also will see the introduction of a direct service to Lyon and Provence.

There are also 200 extra services to Paris being lined up over the summer months to satisfy demand.

Mary Walsh, director of communications at Eurostar, said: "This is a landmark weekend for Eurostar as we launch our first new direct service in over 10 years.

"We're braced for a busy weekend in our stations as British travellers seek some respite from the seemingly endless cold weather."

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WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN? Far right is an artist's impression of a regenerated Sittingbourne town centre following the now defunct Tesco development, at present the area is in need of a little revitalisation

DEVELOPMENT

Determination to live up to regeneration promise

As Tesco pulls out of expansion plans **Joe Bill** looks at what's next for future of town centre

LAST August, on the back of a flat-bed truck, the development firm behind the long overdue regeneration of Sittingbourne town centre towed a large billboard making a promise to the people.

It vowed to bring "new life" to the town centre and make it "a better place".

Even its most ardent admirers would admit the town could do with fresh impetus.

Like so many towns, it has struggled in the face of the recession and the shift in shoppers' habits to online retailers and big, out-of-town shopping complexes such as Bluewater.

Cathedral, the developer hired by the Spirit of Sittingbourne consortium to deliver the regeneration and those behind the billboards, has ambitious plans. With a view to creating a more arts-led hub – complete with multiplex cinema, cultural quarter and entertainment venue – its scheme is extensive.

Yet last month, as we have already reported, it was dealt a blow as supermarket giant Tesco announced it was pulling the plug on its £110 million development of the site.

The supermarket chain's role was significant as not only was it planning to extend the Forum Shopping Centre, which it owns, but it intended to build a bridge linking the development in Milton Creek with the town centre – a key part of making the town's heart more vibrant and accessible. It pulled out as a consequence of its profits being hit by an ill-fated foray into the US market place, which blew a £1.2 billion hole in its bottom line.

And while that does not derail the plans, it does make things more difficult.

Labour leader on Swale Borough Council, Roger Truelove, said the news was a "a big blow" to the project and blamed hold-ups over highways concerns in the planning process for Tesco's decision.

He said: "We understand there is a downturn in the economy and Tesco has had to reconsider their options. But our view is that there was an opportunity between 2005 and 2009 when the economy was growing and Tesco was very keen to move forward in Sittingbourne.

"The opportunity was essentially lost by Swale Borough Council and Kent County Council because they were too slow to come up with the development plan into which Tesco could make their application.

"They own an enormous amount of land and they were the ones who were going to build the all important bridge to link the new development with the existing town centre. It's a big blow."

Certainly Tesco's ambition was considerable. When they launched the scheme Jonathan Simpson, Tesco corporate affairs manager, said its objective was to "revitalise the town centre, attracting new businesses, creating jobs and transforming the public spaces in the town".

Yet council chiefs driving the regeneration insist there will be no slowdown in the overall project.

Rob Sloper, of Spirit of Sittingbourne, explains: "We were disappointed to hear Tesco have pulled out, however we are confident our scheme will give Sittingbourne an injection of much needed improvement, including a new station square, a new cultural quarter, a new library and new public realm as well as new homes."

Pete Raine is director of regeneration at Swale Borough Council: "You need to look at Sittingbourne as a whole and not just at the Tesco site.

"Although they have withdrawn their planning application, which is significant, we have none the less got an awful lot going on in the rest of Sittingbourne as well.

"That's going forward pretty fast frankly, and none of it is predicated on Tesco doing their development. The land is theirs and I can't tell them what to do, but having announced so recently that they are withdrawing their planning application I wouldn't expect them to come forward with revised plans particularly quickly."

No one, it seems, is keen to see the promise to regenerate the town centre be allowed to slip.

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MEDIA

Don't miss all the latest headlines

THERE are even more great reasons to pick up this newspaper over the coming month – and now more ways to receive the cream of the county's news during the week.

Last week we launched a new daily email newsletter, bringing the latest headlines from the news, sport, leisure and blogs sections of our www.kentnews.co.uk website.

If you already receive our popular weekend emails – delivering a digital copy of this newspaper straight to your inbox – you'll have started receiving the daily newsletter automatically.

If not, simply click on the register section of our home page and fill out your details.

What's more, our website's popularity continues to grow – as do the thousands following us via online social networking website Twitter.

Those who follow us receive the latest headlines just moments after the stories go live. Visit www.twitter.com/kosmedia to follow us.

What's more, if you ever have difficulty finding a copy of our papers as they get picked up so quickly, why not join the tens of thousands who receive our e-editions? They allow you to read the paper, turn the pages, print and store stories, email PDFs to friends, read the great offers from our advertisers and, best of all, it's free.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

The War and Peace Revival
May 12

We profile Rex Cadman, organiser of the largest military event in the county, and look at its switch from Paddock Wood to Folkestone this summer.

Pure Weddings
May 19

This pull-out is bursting with ideas to help you start planning for your big day.

Homes & Gardens
May 26

As spring moves towards summer, we take a look at ways to transform your home and how your garden can bloom into something extra special this year.

Business Quarter
June 9

A round-up of the biggest business stories, profiles and analysis of the markets.

Are you or your business interested in any of the upcoming features? Editorial - 01303 817100 Advertising - 01303 817150

EVENT

Festival to honour memory of stabbed Harry Potter actor

A HOST of big names from the movie industry will be heading to Kent later this month for a film festival set up in the memory of murdered Harry Potter star Rob Knox.

Mr Knox, 18, was stabbed to death outside a bar in Sidcup in 2008 just before Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince was released, in which he portrayed student Marcus Belby.

To remember him, the festival was set up and will again be hosted at Cineworld Bexleyheath.

Among those appearing will be actor Frank Harper, who has appeared in more than 30 films including the likes of Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels, and the Football Factory.

He joins the likes of Enrico Tessarin, producer of The Knot, The Bill actor Graham Cole, scriptwriter of the upcoming Die Hard movie Ben Trebilcock, and Mark Holt, special effects supervisor for Sherlock Holmes and Les Miserables to present awards.

Filmmakers from around the world have once again entered films into the festival, which runs from Tuesday, May 29, through to the awards night on Wednesday, June 5.

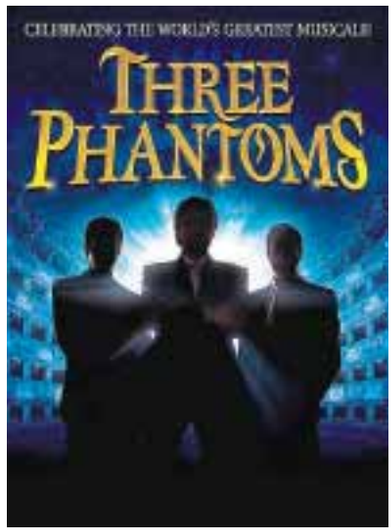
Festival director and head of production at Pixelform Studios, Michael Wearing, said: "It is a credit to the local filmmaking community that their films have been selected for screening alongside some very high quality films from around the world."

Entry to the Cineworld event is by ticket only, email robknoxff@btinternet.com for details.

COMPETITION

WIN! Tickets to be entertained by Three Phantoms on one stage

From Les Miserables to Kiss Me Kate, talented trio will share their highlights of the West End and you could be part of the audience



IT has been hailed as one of the most entertaining nights of musical theatre currently on tour – and later this month the Three Phantoms comes to a stage near you, as it arrives at Dartford's Orchard Theatre.

Starring Earl Carpenter, Matthew Cammelle and Stephen John Davis, it unites the trio – all of whom have played the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's long-running, hugely successful, musical – for a night of musical magic.

Not only do the trio provide backstage insights and anecdotes from their time in the title role, but the show also features songs from other musicals, including Les Miserables, West Side Story, Spamalot, Kiss Me Kate, The Scarlet Pimpernel and Wicked, to name but a few.

And you could be there for free thanks to our great competition.

KoS has teamed up with The Orchard Theatre to offer five lucky winners a pair of tickets each to watch Three Phantoms on Wednesday, May 29, at 7.30pm.

All you have to do is answer this simple question and text or post your answer to us.

Who wrote the Phantom of the Opera?
a. Michael Crawford
b. Andrew Lloyd Webber
c. Will.i.Am

To enter send a text which reads 'KOS THREE' followed by your answer, then your first name, surname, address and postcode to 80058. For example, if you think the answer is 'c' text: KOS THREE C JOHN SMITH, 2 THE STREET, YOUR TOWN, DV1 2PT. Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rate. Closing date is May 14.

Winners will be selected from all correct entries. The promoter's decision is final.

Usual competition terms and conditions apply – full details of which can be found by following the link on our website www.kentnews.co.uk.

The text entry service is provided by BBA Digital, their helpline is 0844 3572403.

If you answer after the closing deadline of May 14, your entry will not be valid but you may still be charged.

Alternatively enter by post, by sending a postcard with your answer to: Three Phantoms Competition, Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS.

But don't worry if you're not one of the lucky winners. The Three Phantoms runs at The Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from May 29-31 with ticket prices starting at £21 plus booking fee. For details see www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the ticket office on 01322 220000.

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HORTICULTURE

Nerves still take root for garden expert despite knowing what Chelsea Flower Show has in store

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

RENOWNED garden designer Jo Thompson is hoping the sun will shine on her latest effort to bloom at the Chelsea Flower Show.

The green-fingered expert has already bagged gold and silver awards at the world's most famous floral exhibition, organised annually by the Royal Horticultural Society and staged in the grounds of Chelsea Hospital.

Now the Cranbrook creator is hoping to once again win plaudits with her latest plot to entertain the 157,000 visitors.

This year she has been tasked with designing a garden for the Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera) entitled 'Stop the Spread'.

The 10 x 12-metre patch will look to celebrate British horticulture and also raise awareness of damaging plant pests, diseases and invasive non-native species.

The 45-year-old told KoS: "We are a nation of garden lovers. We have some of the most famous green spaces in the world and more than 18.5 million people garden.

"We are a hopeful, resourceful and resilient lot and I want this garden to provoke discussion, inspire action and give hope.

"This is my fourth show garden at Chelsea and I should know better, but each time, at this stage, it's the plants I worry about.

"I am sure I am no different to other professionals who are driven to seek perfection.

"Whenever I get a brief from a client, whether it's for a garden that will be seen by thousands or one that's going to be enjoyed by a family of four, I just want to get it right.

"Obviously, with Chelsea you are being judged by your peers too and many of them will be building their gardens alongside mine over the coming week."

Trees, plants, and water features make for a hectic work schedule with just two weeks to go until the unveiling. Her team will need to dig out a sunken garden area as well as erecting 22 panels of two-metre walls to enclose the plot.

The RHS Chelsea Flower Show runs from May 21-25.

HOPING: Jo Thompson has won awards at Chelsea show

START SMALL, GROW BIG

HAVING set up her own garden design company in 2005, Jo Thompson has a few tips for any gardeners inspired to pit their expertise in competition.

She said: "Try your local gardening show first and then consider doing something at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, which is the largest in the world.

"If you are serious about coming to Chelsea the judges need to know you have experience."

Meanwhile, she still has ambitions of her own, saying: "I would love to present on TV and see better and more gardening programmes. We are a nation of garden lovers yet so little time is dedicated to it."

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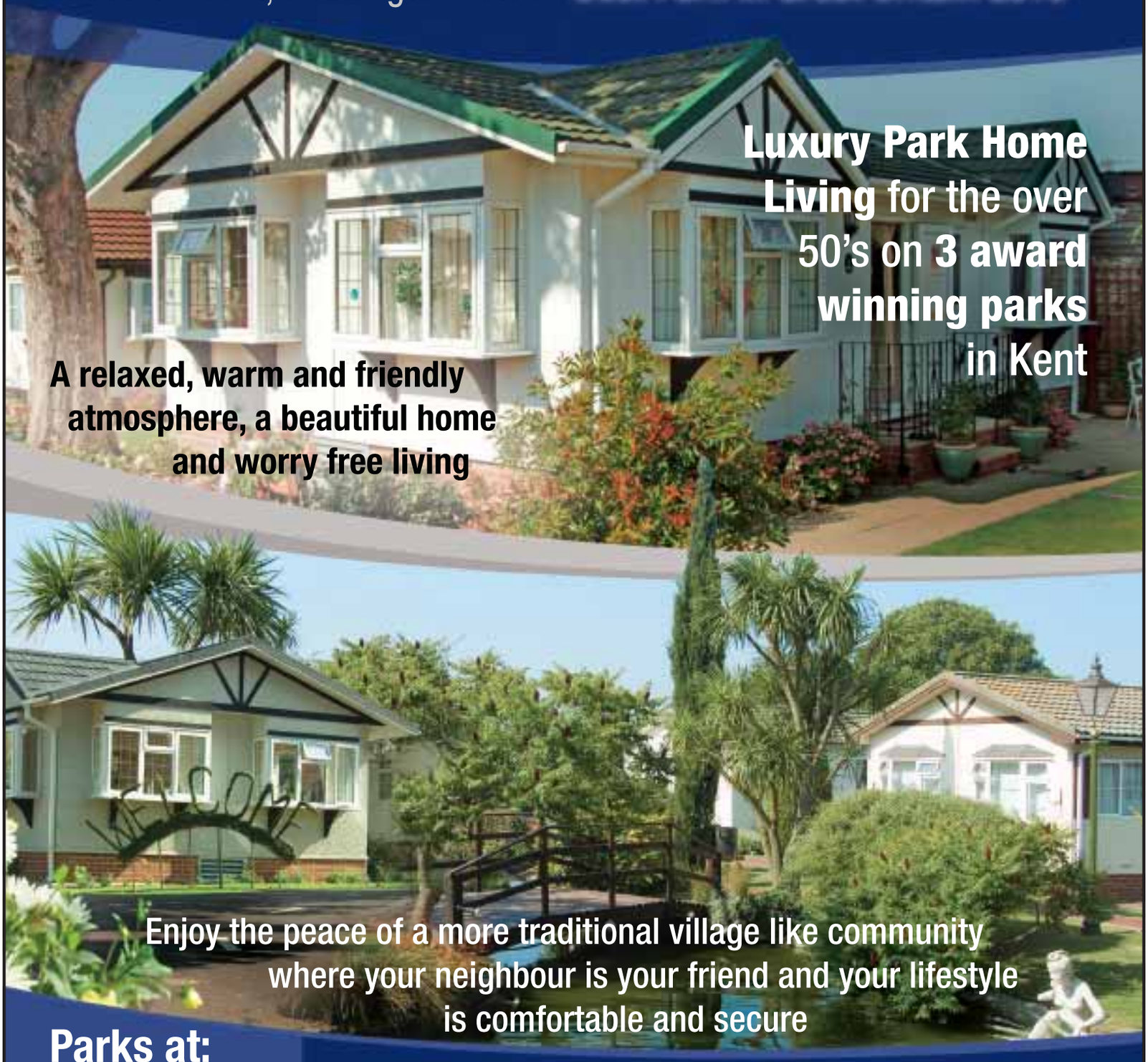

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Exhibition celebrates estuary's ebb and flow

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

CHILDREN'S toys sinking in the mud, wartime relics which stand isolated off our coast, and one of our foremost non-league football teams; unlikely bedfellows for a new art exhibition which draws its inspiration from the Thames Estuary.

The work of 12 London-based artists, Estuary consists of photography, painting, printmaking and film drawn from the last 30 years. But all are united by the influence of where the River Thames flows into the North Sea off the north Kent coast.

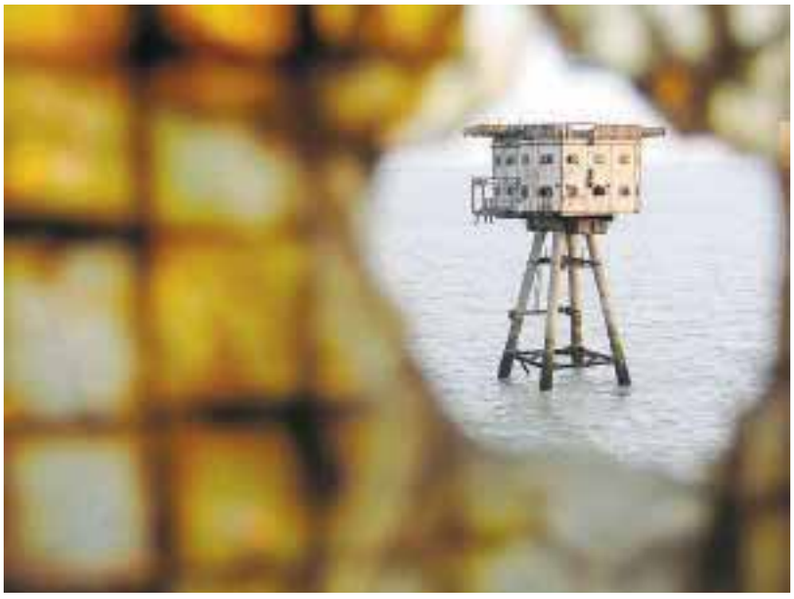
The exhibition runs from May 17 until October at the Museum of London Docklands, on the Isle of Dogs.

Throughout the exhibition's run a film, Portrait of a River, which combines representations of the people and the places that define the character of the estuary, will add new material.

Printmaking and photography by Christiane Baumgartner entitled Medway has also been especially commissioned for the show.

Francis Marshall, senior curator, said: "By bringing together these contemporary pieces we hope to give a sense of just what an extraordinary landscape London has on its doorstep, and to explore some of the issues which characterise the city's relationship with the estuary today."

Another movie by William Raban is Thames Film, made in 1986, which retraces writer and naturalist Thomas Pennant's 1787 Journey from London to Dover.



LIFE AROUND THE ESTUARY: Main picture: Neighbour by Stephen Turner; top, Children's scooter by Gayle Chong Kwan; bottom, Crossness sludge incinerator by Peter Marshall

Mr Raban said: "The appearance of the river has changed dramatically in the intervening 27 years but essentially the power of the river remains timeless and will always be a rich source of inspiration for artists."

Others reflect on history. Stephen Turner's Seafort Project was the result of 36-days alone on the derelict searchlight tower of the Shivering Sands Seafort. This was one in a series of military platforms built in the estuary to provide defence against Luftwaffe attacks during World War Two.

An ecological theme is an important part of Estuary, which details how the area is threatened by the capital's transport and energy generating proposals as well as a proposed airport.

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REGENERATION

Roller-coaster ride over after heritage park given go-ahead

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

DREAMLAND could be back on the map as a major tourist destination in just over a year, after a landmark legal ruling this week paved the way for it to be transformed into a heritage theme park.

The iconic site on Margate seafront had been at the centre of a messy legal wrangle after Thanet District Council attempted to serve a compulsory purchase order so it could push ahead with plans it sees as a key piece in the jigsaw of revitalising the town.

But it had been opposed by the sites' owners, DreamlandLive, which said it had its own plans.

But High Court judges this week backed the council and its partners, the Dreamland Trust.

The once popular venue has been empty for more than seven years.

Last summer the Government gave Thanet council the nod to regain the land – a decision which was unsuccessfully appealed by DreamlandLive.

Chairman of the Dreamland Trust, Nick Laister, was delighted with the ruling.

He said: "The Dreamland Trust was confident the secretary of state had made the right decision for the future of the Dreamland Margate site and we are delighted this decision has been found to be a sound one.

RIDE ON: The heritage fun park would see the old scenic railway (left) revitalised

"The residents and businesses of Thanet have waited too long to see this important tourism site come back to life, and this decision means we should finally be able to make a start.

"We look forward to working with our partners Thanet District Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund in implementing the world's first amusement park of thrilling historic rides."

DreamlandLive is believed to have been keen on plans to build both a fun park and new housing on the site, but Thanet council is instead looking to spend £11 million creating the heritage park.

Renowned designer Wayne Hemingway will have a big part to play in the proposed redesign of the new venue with plans to restore the historic, Grade II-listed scenic railway ride as well as the 1935, 2,200 seat Grade II-listed cinema building.

The project is set to be funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's Sea Change programme and Thanet council.

Thanet council's chief executive Sue McGonigal said: "We now have a clear mandate to progress with our plans to deliver a new and unique visitor attraction for the south east.

"With overwhelming public support, and the vital funds in place, there has been no doubt about our commitment to see this project through.

"Getting to this point has certainly been frustrating, especially with the site left vacant and unused for a significant amount of time.

"Our focus now will be to progress with plans to dramatically regenerate Dreamland and I look forward to seeing the potential benefits this will bring to Margate."

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KENT **REMEMBERED**

Red Ensign to honour Battle of the Atlantic

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE flag of the Merchant Navy, the Red Ensign, will fly above Medway Council's Gun Wharf building in Chatham this week to commemorate the heroism of sailors who braved U-boat attacks and the threat of enemy battleships to keep Britain fighting in the Second World War.

This year is being recognised as the 70th-anniversary year of the Battle of the Atlantic, which was at its most fierce between mid-1940 and the end of 1943.

Council leader Rodney Chambers said: "With such a strong naval history in Medway, particularly in Chatham, it will be a great honour to fly the Red Ensign to remember those who did so much for our country."

The conflict between the vital British convoys, their destroyer escorts and the prowling U-boat wolf-packs was the "longest, largest and most complex" in naval history, according to wartime Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Keeping supply routes open between Britain and America ensured that war supplies, raw materials and food could be brought into this country's ports.

The intrepid journeys were fraught with danger, and between 1939 and 1945 more than 36,000 merchant seamen were killed.

The battle itself involved thousands of ships in more than 100 convoy battles in an area covering thousands of square miles of sea.

The Royal Navy and RAF, Canadian forces and, from 1941, US air and sea power overcame the German surface raiders by the end of 1942, most notably with the sinking of the giant battleship Bismarck.

A year later the U-boats had been almost entirely vanquished after the Enigma codes used to direct their movements were broken at Bletchley Park and pinpoint attacks launched.

VITAL: Supply convoys across the Atlantic were vital to the success of the war effort. The Red Ensign will be flown to remember the sailors' bravery.

It was a strategic victory for the Allies, as the German blockade failed, but achieved at great cost: 3,500 merchant ships and 175 warships were sunk for the loss of 783 U-boats.

To commemorate the bravery of the men who braved the icy seas and the threat of sudden death from an unseen enemy lurking beneath the waves in this anniversary year, Medway Council will raise the ensign over its building on Wednesday (May 8) and it will fly until Saturday.

Chatham's important maritime links prompted the Medway branch of the Merchant Navy Association to ask the council to put up the flag.

Ralph Collins, chairman, said: "We have a 30-strong association in Chatham and we want to commemorate those who died and make sure they are remembered on this important 70th anniversary.

"If it hadn't been for them, the world would be very different today."

The protection of the vital sea corridor by British and Allied ships and aircraft from the German threat ultimately led to success in North Africa, the liberation of Europe after D-Day and the fall of Nazi Germany.

Churchill was later to state: "The Battle of the Atlantic was the dominating factor all through the war. Never for one moment could we forget that everything happening elsewhere, on land, at sea or in the air, depended ultimately on its outcome."

■ The Red Ensign was originally one of three flags flown by the Royal Navy.

It dates from the early 17th century, when it had the cross of St George where the Union Flag is now placed. In 1864, however, it was decided the navy's use of three coloured flags – red, white and blue – was confusing.

So the navy adopted the white; the Royal Naval Reserve and other ships in Government services, such as Coastguard vessels, the blue; and the merchant fleet the red – a policy that continues to this day.

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OPINION

It's time for a new approach

Scholar **Marian FitzGerald** considers a dilemma facing Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes in the way crimes are reported

FOR many years the police have had a preoccupation with reducing crime figures year-on-year.

This has resulted in official crime figures largely excluding new types of crime.

The previous Labour government's claim to have been responsible for a 'fall in crime' was based mainly on traditional forms of crime – even though these were already in decline when it came to office in 1997.

Because of this preoccupation with reducing crime figures, I think the new Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) need to be challenged to oversee a cultural shift in the way the police detect and record crime. PCCs hold the key to shaping a new culture based on the police proactively looking for crime.

For nearly 15 years, police have been driven by the imperative to demonstrate year-on-year reductions in crime.

Because of this, the service has developed a mindset which is resistant to recognising new types of crime – such as card fraud and the many scams perpetrated over the internet – and it has been more than happy for the Home Office to absolve it of taking responsibility for them.

Meanwhile, the Home Office also ensured its preferred measure of crime – the British Crime Survey – also continued to ignore these developments. It did ask about card fraud from 2005 but the figures were so alarming they kept them out of the official BCS estimate of the 'real' level of crime.

Yet, proactive police work in some forces – using the internet and social media – is uncovering large amounts of unreported crime.

Importantly, this approach could also prevent crimes by detecting them while they were still in preparation.

There is no doubt PCCs would find this challenging for several reasons.

In particular, if the police began proactively looking for crime, this would inevitably increase the official crime figures. Yet PCCs have been elected with a mandate to reduce crime still further.

This approach would also require ploughing a larger amount of diminishing resources into police activity which is not necessarily visible to the public.

This type of invisible police work addresses problems which will overlap only marginally – if at all – with the issues PCCs will pick up on the doorsteps. The vast majority of members of the public that PCCs consult to determine their priorities will not themselves have been victims of crime at all, still less victims of serious crime.

Furthermore, the effort may not always be directly to the benefit of the PCC's own force.

If police began looking for crime, this would inevitably increase the official crime figures

Officers who take this proactive approach to using the internet and social media can, for example, track down people making explosives.

Yet the individuals concerned may not be residents of the force area those officers work for. So this approach would require a major commitment from all PCCs to collaboration and mutual co-operation, as opposed to competing over who has secured the most resources for their own force and their success in reducing crime and increasing their force's detection rate.

I personally can see possible ways around these apparent obstacles but maybe, like the little boy in the story of the Emperor's New Clothes, I'm just being naïve?

■ Marian FitzGerald is visiting professor of criminology at the University of Kent's school of social policy, sociology and social research.

KOS COMMENT

Ukip delights, as Labour fall flat on comeback trail

IF EVER you hear people complain that politics is boring, then following the local election results on Friday should have exposed that claim as nonsense.

In an election which was always going to be difficult to call, the erosion of the Tory stranglehold and the creation of a new political landscape in the county proved thoroughly fascinating, regardless of your political leanings.

Ukip's rise was to be expected, the lack lustre charges of the likes of the Labour Party will be viewed as a major disappointment for a party which sent some of its biggest guns – including leader Ed Miliband – to campaign here.

One thing is for sure – it wasn't boring.

Dreaming of Dreamland

FEW will deny that the decision to push ahead with plans for a heritage theme park on the Dreamland site were welcome.

The prime location has to be fully utilised to play the important role it must in Margate's continuing evolution.

Doing nothing is not an option. Now all eyes will be on the delivery of the dreams.

Feedback

Letters/emails/twitter

Whitstable Castle
by Cassie McGuill from Trottiscliffe

Images of Kent

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Electric cars are the future

I was interested in yet another letter from Terry Hudson (KOS Letters).

Cars do have many advantages, such as shelter from the weather, being able to store shopping and often giving door-to-door access.

They also, however, cause pollution, which, according to a cross-party report, kills 45,000 people per year.

They do cause a lot of noise, which is why I have never seen an estate agent saying that the house is on a noisy road and in most cases people choose houses that have no through traffic.

Roads, as with other forms of transport, can sever communities.

Electric vehicles would reduce some of these problems and the latest data I can find from the Royal Automobile Club index cost of motoring suggests that electric/hybrid vehicles are on average cheaper than conventional petrol ones. Does Mr Hudson think the RAC is a secret anti-car organisation?

David Spurling, Sittingbourne

PCC must be more honest

I was amused to read the Ann Barnes column in your paper last weekend and watch the speed at which she brushed the Paris Brown affair under the carpet before going on to say what a great lot of work she did for charity.

I hope she realises that we're not all stupid.

It would have been far more refreshing to see her go into some depth about the fall-out of the youth commissioner situation and treat us with sufficient respect rather than nodding towards it and then saying how great she is.

She'll need to if she expects us all to vote for her again.

T Brown, Tonbridge

Ann Barnes should resign

As one of the vast number of people who did not vote for a Police and Crime Commissioner, knowing it would a complete waste of public money, I feel vindicated in my abstention, with the subsequent furore over Ann Barnes and Paris Brown.

I consider the appointment of a 'youth PCC' a misuse of public money. In fact, it shows Ann Barnes's utter ineptitude in taking on the role of PCC in the first place.

If the woman in question had any integrity she should resign from her over-paid post immediately.

This is not what the good, hard-working people of Kent want public funds spent on.

Colette Watson, Herne Bay

Good riddance to Paris Brown

We did not have to wait long before the lunacy of electing the Police and Crime Commissioner became apparent.

Ann Barnes is an excellent example of why PCCs are a waste of time and money.

Fortunately, I voted for the candidate who promised an end to political-correctness, so I cannot be blamed for the election of Mrs Barnes.

Unfortunately, I and all the other voters who placed their crosses elsewhere on the ballot papers still have to contribute to her salary and that of a youth commissioner.

The fact Mrs Barnes decided Paris Brown was an excellent role model for young people speaks for itself. She has shown herself to be as immature as her protege.

Good riddance to Paris Brown and hopefully, in the not too distant future, good riddance to Ann Barnes, too.

V Hemsley-Flint, Sittingbourne

Funeral sets a precedent

With reference to Adrian Ottley (Letters, 21/04), Winston Churchill was afforded a state funeral in honour of leading this country through the dark days of World War Two to victory.

Awarding Margaret Thatcher a state funeral, in all but name, was wrong. Not on cost – that was a pittance compared with the reported £50m a day we contribute for the pleasure of being a member of the European Union.

But the fact it now sets a precedent. Who will be next – President Blair perhaps?

S Reeves, Herne Bay

Thatcher hurt the disabled

Forgive me if I do not join in with the tributes eulogising Margaret Thatcher. She never supported the unemployed, or the disabled, who found it difficult to get suitable jobs.

They only seemed to be for those who were able-bodied and not for those who weren't.

It was very frustrating indeed for people like me.

As I suffer from mild cerebral palsy, I found it hard to get work in an office as I didn't have the manual dexterity to be a secretary, or anything else of that kind, because the Thatcher government cruelly denied the disabled any chance of regular employment by refusing to provide us with training for jobs that were suited to our abilities, talents and interests.

Rosie Johnston, Ightham

The voters are being ignored

Peter Abbotts (KOS Comment 28/04) missed the point that both Labour and the Tories have taken away all hope from voters by ignoring them and handing over 75 per cent of the running of this country to the EU and the rest to quangos and non-elected governmental organisations.

This is the reason that so little changes between one government and another. This is the reason voters' concerns are never considered or addressed. This is the reason this country continues its decline, as our career politicians just look to what's best for them.

Why would anybody rush out to vote for people who have no control, no interest (other than self) and no common sense, whose greed is made plain by their actions and make no difference?

Phil Granger, West Malling

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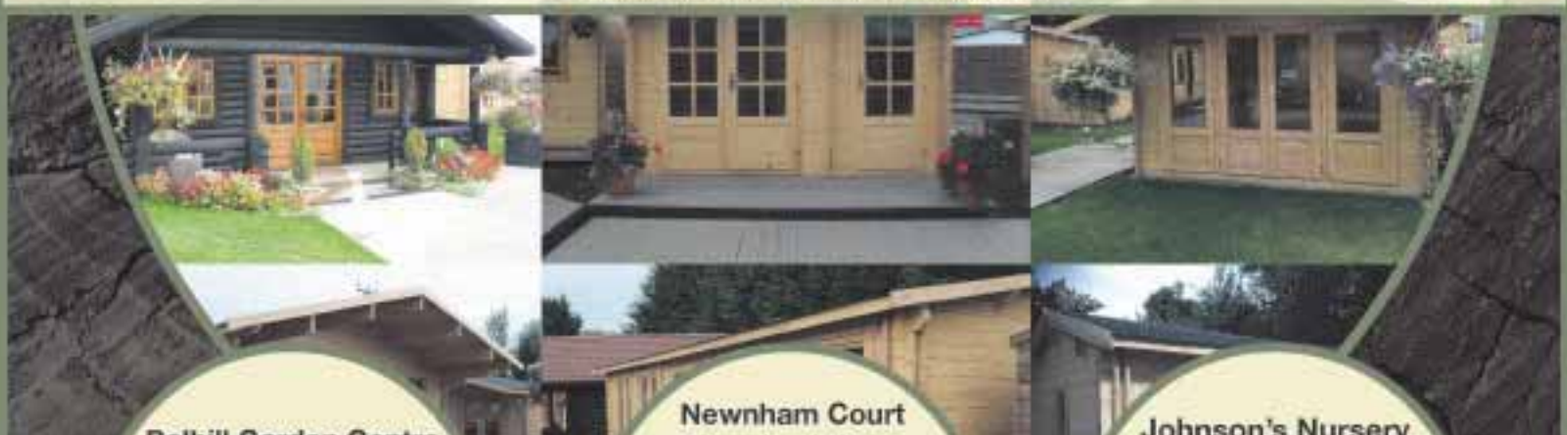

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weekend

By **GREG MILES**

Life gets noisier as Sean returns to his stand-up

The television comedian looks at the lighter side of life as he reflects on his father's death and the joy of living

A SHOW about death does not have to be all doom and gloom, and Irish comic Sean Hughes is proving precisely that on a tour inspired by the loss of his father.

The 47-year-old thought his stand-up career was finished 10 years ago when he left the stage for work in television, with regular appearances on Never Mind The Buzzcocks and Coronation Street, and novel-writing.

But after his father died from cancer two years ago, he realised he had something more to give and is now back on the road with his new show Life Becomes Noises, which has been extended by popular demand to include a date at the Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells on Friday, May 24.

'Death reminded me how precious life is, and I want to talk about those things'

It was two years ago that Hughes realised he would return to the stage.

"I wasn't thinking 'Oh, I'll wait until he dies and I will write a show', but I was thinking about the NHS and how they treat people," he said.

"It's an ongoing thing, the writing process. I always have ideas, so it was straight away, really.

"What happened was his death reminded me how precious life is, and I want to talk about those things. When I wrote the show, it had to be uplifting – there can't be any sentimentality.

"As with any relationship with a father, it was fraught, so I cannot stand that when someone dies they are an angel. You talk about anyone's relationship with a sibling, father or parent. It's hard work, there's no sentimentality.

"I was close, it's my dad, but it's not that thing of it being all lightness and sunshine. I wish soppy television shows would stop telling us so.

"I find comedy is still this magical thing and all I'm doing is speaking truthfully about stuff. People tend to be able to relate to it, so it's a much more enjoyable night out. There is nothing worse than hearing some jokes and forgetting about it.

"It's not a message – I wouldn't have the arrogance to do that – but it's just about dealing with things. When it works most beautifully is when you have a connection. Every night is still slightly different, that's the beauty of it.

"It took me a while to get it. I worked and chopped at it quite a bit to make sure it works. Because it was personal, I wanted to get it right. It took twice as long and the proof is in the success.

"I didn't want to bring people down – I had to get the balance right talking about such a subject."

Having been touring with the show since the Edinburgh Festival in August, he has been pleased with the reaction from audiences.

"The first half, people get really surprised, and the second half is a monologue and fires off on all cylinders," he said. "There's so much stand-up on television at the moment, which means people think shows are going to be one-liners. It's much better than that.

"People laugh, but they find it quite moving as well. I find it's joyful to get that reaction at the end of the show as well as people having a great laugh."

Hughes's move into show business was a bit of a surprise to his parents: "I was brought up working-class – they had no idea why I wasn't working in a supermarket. Once I became popular, they became very proud of that. It was a curve ball, me going into show business. I came from a real working-class Dublin family."

The youngest-ever winner of the prestigious Perrier Award, Hughes revealed that he ran out of things to say when he stopped his stand-up in the mid-90s, after which he took to writing, releasing two books, The Detainees and It's What He Would Have Wanted.

"I stopped in my 30s because I thought I had said everything I wanted to say," he said. "There are so many comics around now and you're all talking about the same stuff, but I don't feel any subject is taboo.

'I find comedy is still this magical thing and all I'm doing is speaking truthfully about stuff'

"I thought I was done with it, but I've found my voice again and wanted to talk about things. If you're on the road all the time, it takes it out of you. I thought I had things to say, so I might as well start talking again.

"The main thing was I was going to write novels – I thought I could only go so far with comedy on stage. I'm a stand-up and that's what I do – everything else is a bonus."

As well as writing the show, he has also made changes to his lifestyle following his father's death.

"I'm really focused at the moment. My father made me realise that living is precious, so I changed my lifestyle quite a bit last year and stopped a lot of things I was doing. I don't drink any more – that was the main one.

"I think the culture we're all in, we drink too much. I was habitually drinking way too much. I think that's what the catalyst was for the show – thinking about things differently. I was more focused about things being sober all the time."

■ **Phone the box office on 01892 678678 or visit www.trinitytheatre.net for more details and to book.**

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International pop sensations sign up for Sound Island gig

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

FAME: Lawson have developed an international fanbase through social media

THEY only released their debut album eight months ago but Lawson have already toured with the likes of Westlife and Bruce Springsteen, proving you do not need X Factor-style talent shows to put you into the pop mainstream.

The pop quartet are supporting The Voice star Jessie J at the Sound Island Festival in July, which takes place at Quex Park in Birchington.

The band, who met through the internet, have enjoyed a considerable rise to fame since their debut single When She Was Mine charted at No 3 last May and became one of the highest-rated songs on YouTube within a week of going public.

The four twenty-somethings followed this up with two more Top 10 singles – Taking Over Me and Standing In The Dark – and have just completed a tour of south-east Asia and Australia, having developed a dedicated international fanbase courtesy of social-networking sites including Facebook and Twitter.

"We've just done a bit of a tour around Australasia, from Malaysia, Bangkok, Australia and Singapore. It was amazing," said lead guitarist Joel Peat, who was relaxing back at his home in Mansfield.

"We were the other side of the world and when we emerged from the airport there were thousands of people everywhere."

It was not that long ago the band were playing in front of a handful of people before signing to Polydor Records in 2011, touring with The Wanted and opening for the likes of Will Young and The Saturdays.

"To be honest, it's felt quite gradual for us," said 22-year-old Peat. "A lot of people have said about how quickly it's happened, but we've been going at it for five years, doing gigs with only a few people coming to each show. But the last couple of years it has really shot up.

"We look back at those gigs when there were just three or four people and think this really is incredible. It wasn't too long ago, so we can appreciate what we're doing now."

The band got together when drummer Adam Pitts contacted singer Andy Brown on MySpace, complimenting him on his music.

Now they are rubbing shoulders with legends and taking advice from Bruce Springsteen, albeit indirectly.

"We supported Bruce Springsteen. We didn't get to meet him, but his producer gave us some advice from him. We all love him. We asked how he goes on stage with so much confidence and he told us he pretends to have a secret that the audience don't know about. I found that inspiring. I was three-quarters of the way through reading Ronnie Wood's autobiography and we met him at an event. We had a chat and a photo – that was pretty cool."

Having played with a number of artists who have emerged in the talent-show era, Peat is aware of what it can do for people's careers.

"If we had gone on, we wouldn't have got past the first round," he said. "It's a great platform for people to see talent, people like Matt Cardle and Leona Lewis."

Lawson are playing at the Sound Island Festival on Sunday, July 28, supporting headliner Jessie J, while The Vamps and Union J are also on the bill, with more to be announced.

The line-up for Saturday, July 27, features Plan B, Rita Ora and X Factor-winner James Arthur among others. To book, visit www.quexpark.co.uk or phone 01843 848826.

Cultural diversity celebrated as festival reveals full line-up

THE line-up for Medway Love Music Hate Racism 2013 has been announced.

The festival, which is in its seventh year, takes place on Saturday and Sunday, June 22-23, at the Command House in Riverside, Chatham.

This year's main-stage headline acts are Hobo Jones and the Junkyard Dogs, who will be playing the Glastonbury festival the following weekend. Alongside them is Charlotte Rose Ellis, who played two sets at last year's event.

These artists follow in the footsteps of previous headline acts The Singing Loins, Andy Abraham and Tyrannosaurus Alan.

Other artists on the main stage include Pub Idol 2012-winner Nathan Banks and Go-zilla, as well as Jade's Street Dancers and Urban Steps.

The Bob Wade Stage, home to acoustic and folk artists, will be headlined by Fred Clark, who recently supported The Hoosiers. The stage is named after one of the original Medway Love Music Hate Racism organising team who died in 2011.

The Love DJs Hate Racism section of the festival on Sunday, June 23, features DJ Dips, Nutty Militant, Mikey Ragga and Intentions Studio Sound and more.

Vince Maple, of the organising team and event host, said: "Once again, amazing artists, singers, dancers and performers are all giving their time for free to send the loudest possible message that racism and discrimination are not welcome in Medway and that we are proud of our wonderful, diverse community."

This year will see the return of the popular youth stage, giving young artists a chance to perform. Write to roy.smith@medway.gov.uk to find out more or get involved.

THE ACTS

Main Stage

1- 1.15	**Nathan Banks**
1.20-1.30	Jades Street Dancers
1.35-1.50	**Silf**
1.55-2.05	Urban Steps
2.10-2.40	**Jahson**
2.45-2.55	Guest Speakers (TBC)
3-3.15	**Jades Street Dancers**
3.20-3.55	Go-Zilla
4.05-4.20	**Urban Steps**
4.25-4.55	Playmaker
5.15-5.50	**Jazz Combo**
6.10-6.45	Broken Banjo
7.05-7.45	**Charlotte Rose Ellis**
8.10-8.50	Hobo Jones and the Junkyard Dogs

Bob Wade Stage

6.30-7.10	**Alex Black**
7.20-8	Danny Day
8.10-9	**Annie Callaghan**
9.20-10	JB
10.20-11	**Fred Clark**

All timings are approximate

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MAY DAY

Snap up your free tickets to Kent Factor talent show ... and take a personal Grand Tour of Dickens World

SINCE its relaunch and after just four weeks of operating as a guided-tour experience, Dickens World in Chatham has received more than 10,000 visitors through its doors and gained rave reviews.

Appearing on Heart FM, BBC Radio 2's Chris Evans Show and BBC Radio Kent, the attraction has had its fair share of media attention, too.

Since slashing entry prices from £13 for an adult to a flat rate of just £5.50 per person, Dickens World has made a phenomenal turnaround and is able to compete strongly with other local attractions.

The Grand Tour is an interactive guided experience that brings to life the most colourful characters in a powerful and at times funny exposé of Dickens's works.

Customers can expect their own personal tour guide to take them on a 90-minute journey of discovery back in time as they are introduced to Dickens's characters and the places in which he lived.

Tickets for The Grand Tour at Dickens World must be booked in advance by phoning 0844 858 6656 or by visiting www.dickensworld.co.uk.

Tours for this May Bank Holiday weekend are selling fast, so book soon to avoid disappointment!

Dickens World is open Monday to Sunday from 10am-5.30pm. Seasonal variations apply.

Also at the weekend you can enjoy Kent Factor, a talent competition in which performers of all ages and abilities perform in front of a live audience on the Britannia Theatre stage at Dickens World.

You can be part of the audience – Dickens World has 100 pairs of FREE tickets to give away for the first 100 emails received.

Interested? Email events@dickensworld.co.uk for the May Bank Holiday weekend show on Sunday, May 5 (this offer will also be honoured for subsequent weekends).

From lunchtime music to afternoon tea, enjoy views of the downs as you relax at the manor

YOU can enjoy a hog roast at The Pavilion Restaurant at Eastwell Manor during this month's bank holidays to the sound of Ian Shawcross and his band.

The events will be held on Monday, May 6, and Monday, May 27, from 12.30pm until 3.30pm.

You will be able to bring the family to the delightful and relaxed Pavilion Restaurant for the tasty hog roast with traditional accompaniments, a superb selection of seasonal salads and a choice of desserts.

The price is £19.50 per person and half that for children under 12.

Alfresco dining on the restaurant terrace is available, while you can finish your day with a walk around the beautiful gardens and manicured lawns.

Quality without compromise and peaceful seclusion is the Eastwell Manor experience. Just step over the threshold and be welcomed by warming log-fires and discreet service.

Your stay begins in the magnificent panelled reception hall, which leads through to the luxurious drawing room, bar and dining room.

You can take advantage of an all-day menu in The Pavilion Restaurant, which is sophisticated, informal and modern and places the emphasis on quality.

For more relaxed moments, why not take morning coffee or afternoon tea on one of the terraces and unwind and absorb the views towards the glorious North Downs?

There is a fully-licensed bar, while vegetarian options are available for diners.

Summer barbecues commence on Sunday, May 26.

The Pavilion Restaurant is open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm.

Email pavilion@eastwellmanor.co.uk or phone 01233 213100 to book.

Historic barn bloomed into life from a crumbling wreck to become an entertaining day out in the sunshine

BYBROOK Barn Garden Centre has just opened a new factory warehouse selling clearance garden furniture.

There is more than 10,000 sq ft of clearance interior and exterior garden furniture just waiting to be bought!

And if that isn't enough, there is also a pet centre, coffee shop, food hall, restaurant, American diner, Edinburgh Woollen Mill, plant centre and craft centre to be enjoyed by visitors.

Bybrook Barn Garden Centre was founded in the old barn at Bybrook, Kennington, in 1975.

The history of the barn is long and colourful. By 1975 it had lain derelict for a long period of time and had reached a sad state of decay.

The old barn and surrounding wasteground was bought with little money but a lot of enthusiasm, and new life was breathed into one of Ashford's ancient buildings.

Major surgery was needed on this crumbling barn with its sides bulging, most of its roof having collapsed and rotten timbers.

However, with a lot of hard work, over the following decade Bybrook Barn became firmly established as one of the leading garden centres in the area.

In 1986 the business moved across the road to its new site, resulting in the magnificent garden centre you see today.

Whether you come to browse or buy, the aim at Bybrook Barn is that your visit will be a pleasure for the whole family.

Take a look through the website at www.bybrook-barn.co.uk for the full picture and then make a visit.

Bybrook Barn Garden Centre is on Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 9JZ (from the M20 junction 9 on the A28); telephone 01233 631959.

Bybrook Barn is open throughout the whole of the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Celebrity steam train mascots Station Cat and Edward Bear are ready to meet young readers

SITTINGBOURNE'S steam railway SKLR operates between the former paper mill at Sittingbourne (now Morrisons) and the active mill at Kemsley, just under two miles away.

The 15-minute journey from Sittingbourne Viaduct station takes you over Milton Regis viaduct, 98 years old and about a kilometre in length, before crossing Milton Creek country park to Kemsley Down. Here you will find the railway shop, café, museum, picnic areas, engine shed and station attractions.

Jack the Station Cat and Edward Bear team up on Sunday and Monday, May 5-6, for family fun at Kemsley Down station. There will also be a mouse-hunt and mask-making for the children on both days.

Trains depart Sittingbourne Viaduct station hourly from 11am until 4pm.

Jack the Station Cat features in a series of children's books written by the Rev Alan Cliff, and books and souvenirs will be for sale in the railway's shop at Kemsley Down.

SKLR was the first railway to offer a Jack the Station Cat event and even feature in one of the books.

Edward Bear is the railway's own mascot and features in several children's books. There will be the opportunity for youngsters to meet both characters at Kemsley Down.

The railway aims to be a cheap, family-friendly day out, with return fares costing £5.50 for adults, £4 for concessions, £3 for children (aged 3-13) and £16 for families (two adults and up to four children).

On ordinary Sundays, trains depart Sittingbourne Viaduct from 1pm-4pm.

For timetables, visit Sittingbourne library, download them from www.sklr.net or phone 01795 424899.

MAY DAY

Traditional family fun ranges from an animals' Cuddle Corner to dancing around the maypole

THERE'S May Day family fun galore in store at Kent Life in Maidstone.

Visitors can watch the Morris dancing, relax to the sounds of the traditional steam organ and also see the blacksmith at work in the forge.

Join in the annual parade and the crowning of the May Queen and her princesses and grab a last chance to bottle-feed the adorable spring lambs, join in the grand tug-of-war... or even have a go at maypole-dancing.

There will also be a hidden wooden-chick-hunt, a pottery studio, junior electric quad bikes and donkey rides.

Spread across 28 acres of lush countryside, there's always something to do at Kent Life, whatever the weather may throw at us.

There are tractors to ride and play areas in which to go wild. Kent Life's Vintage Village allows visitors to step back in time by exploring a collection of historic buildings saved from demolition and reassembled, and also meet the colourful characters who lived and worked in the settings.

Kent Life is a real working farm, so there are plenty of animals to see, including pigs, sheep, ducks, goats and alpacas.

Young visitors can even snuggle up to the smaller farmyard friends in the ever-popular Cuddle Corner.

Visitors can stroll through beautiful gardens, discover what herbs can be found in a traditional farm-kitchen garden, explore the last hand-picked hop garden in the country and see the only coal-fired oast-house in Britain.

They can also ramble along the wildlife discovery trail or just take time to explore the orchard.

Visit www.kentlife.org.uk for ticket prices, opening times and more details about the many attractions available.

Feast on a delicious meal in the picturesque pub that has been entertaining guests for hundreds of years

THE Red Lion at Hernhill is a picturesque 14th-century pub in a small village near Faversham.

Surrounded by history, the pub dates back to the 1300s and still contains many original features.

It offers a selection of traditional English food alongside the frequently-changing seasonal specials.

Facilities include an upstairs restaurant available for dining or large functions, a front patio overlooking the church and village green and a well-established pub garden with many historical features and a large play area for children.

There are popular steak nights on Wednesdays and Thursdays, during which two eat for £26.95 including wine.

You will have two tender 9oz rump steaks cooked to your liking, served with chips, peas and fresh tomato.

You can choose from a bottle of crisp dry white wine or a mellow full-bodied red wine on the extensive wine list.

There is also a pensioners' special every Wednesday lunchtime.

The à la carte menu served daily from Monday to Saturday has a wide selection for all tastes, with many meals costing less than £10.

The Taste of Kent menu is served in the newly-refurbished upstairs restaurant – all produce is sourced from within a two-mile radius of the pub, excluding the fish, which is landed at Ramsgate. This menu is available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and booking is advisable.

The opening hours are Saturday 11.30am to 11pm (food served from midday to 2.30pm and 6pm-9pm) and Sunday noon to 10.30pm (food noon to 8pm).

The Red Lion is at Church Hill, Hernhill, Faversham ME13 9JR; for details see www.theredlion.org, or you can email enquiries@theredlion.org or phone 01227 751207.

Learn about life in the 14th century when you meet colourful characters and hear their tales

FAMILIES can meet some entertaining pilgrims with a fun and educational trip to The Canterbury Tales.

Visitors over the Bank Holiday will be among the first to be entertained, educated and amused by new-costumed characters who have been recruited to help celebrate the award-winning attraction's 25th anniversary this year.

Having welcomed more than two million visitors from all over the world, The Canterbury Tales remains one of the 'must do, must see' attractions in Kent. It provides a great introduction to the historic cathedral city and its famous literary connection as well as being a hugely entertaining and enjoyable day out for the whole family.

The Canterbury Tales brings to life five of Geoffrey Chaucer's best-loved stories with tales of love, romance and trickery, vividly re-created with all the fun of Chaucer's original tales.

Its stunningly accurate reconstruction of 14th-century England, set inside the former St Margaret's Church, gives visitors the opportunity to step back in time and experience the sights, smells and sounds of medieval times.

Visitors are invited to join Chaucer and his band of pilgrims as they embark on a journey from The Tabard Inn in London to the shrine of St Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral.

The attraction offers children's commentaries and gives youngsters the chance to dress up in medieval costumes to make their visit even more memorable.

The audio guides feature much-loved actor Bernard Cribbins, the voice of The Wombles children's TV programme running through the 70s and 80s and who recently starred in the BBC's Doctor Who.

Visit www.canterburytales.org.uk to find out more.

Countryside, heritage and a superb collection of mini locomotives combine to make top visitor attraction

EIGHTY-FIVE years of steam-railway heritage set against the backdrop of some of Kent's most picturesque countryside is what makes a journey on the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway a totally unique experience and is why this heritage railway is one of Kent's top visitor attractions.

The Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway is proud to operate the most complete collection of one-third-full-size steam locomotives in the world.

Thirteen-and-a-half miles of track stretch across picturesque Romney Marsh from the Cinque Port town of Hythe to Dungeness, one of the largest expanses of shingle in the world and designated as a National Nature Reserve.

Six stations span the length of the line, with each being in easy reach of either clean beaches, amusements for the children, shops, nature walks, cycling paths or, at Dungeness, the Old Lighthouse.

You can stop at New Romney station and visit the model-railway exhibition and, during the summer, the 1940s exhibition.

Why not make best use of the famous RomneyRover ticket (£16 for adults, £14 senior citizens, £8 children aged three to 15) and hop on and off the trains all day long? The ticket includes free admission to the model-railway exhibition.

The FamilyRover for two adults and up to three children offers the same benefits and costs just £43.50.

Now running a daily service until Sunday, November 3, with free car-parking at most stations, retail outlets and cafés, and facilities for visitors with mobility problems, the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway is an any-weather, all-generations great day out.

For timetable information and details of special events, or to visit the online shop, you can visit www.rhdr.org.uk.

EastEnders Ronnie is a Marlowe good fairy

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

EASTENDERS star Samantha Womack heads the cast of this year's Marlowe Theatre pantomime Jack And The Beanstalk.

Womack, who played Ronnie Mitchell in the soap, will play the Good Fairy and be joined by CBeebies presenter Phil Gallagher, Ben Roddy, Lloyd Hollet, Gemma Sutton and Jo Parsons.

Pantomime-writer, producer and director Paul Hendy said: "I am pleased and proud to say Canterbury will have a top-quality, talented cast of performers and I'm sure Jack And The Beanstalk will prove one of most popular shows ever.

"Last year's production, Sleeping Beauty, attracted a record-breaking 85,000 people, and the way things are looking now that casting for Jack is complete, I am sure we can beat this."

As well as playing a leading role in Albert Square, Womack has had a varied career in television, film and theatre, with roles in such television series as Home Again, Babes In The Wood and Imogen's Face.

On stage she has appeared alongside Patrick Swayze in Guys And Dolls in the West End.

Kent-born Gallagher is a BAFTA-nominated performer, best known for his role as CBeebies' Mister Maker. He has worked in child- ren's TV for the last 15 years.

UP THE BEANSTALK: Phil Gallagher, Ben Roddy and Samantha Womack will all star

Mister Maker, the arts and crafts show for preschoolers, has become a worldwide hit since its first transmission in 2007 and now plays in more than 100 countries.

Gallagher, who comes from Gillingham and went to Canterbury Christ Church University, has appeared in several pantomimes. He will play Jack's brother, Billy, at The Marlowe.

Canterbury-based actor Roddy, who has played the funnyman in four previous pantomimes in the city, will play Dame Trot.

Comedian and Thanet man Hollett also proved popular last year at The Marlowe and will be back, this time as baddie Dr Fleshcreep.

Another name familiar to panto audiences is

Sutton, who played Wendy in Peter Pan at The Marlowe Theatre Arena in 2009-10. This year she will play the princess, coming to Canterbury after a national tour of Hairspray.

Parsons, an experienced pantomime performer who has starred in several musicals, will play the title role of Jack.

Jack And The Beanstalk will be at The Marlowe Theatre from Friday, November 29, to Sunday, January 12, 2014.

For performance times and ticket prices, visit www.marlowetheatre.com or phone the box office on 01227 787787.

Annual festival sweeps into town

THE streets of Rochester will be invaded by musicians, dancers and entertainers as part of the Sweeps Festival this bank-holiday weekend.

The festival, which is in its 33rd year, is a celebration of a traditional holiday held by 19th-century chimney sweeps.

Now given a modern twist, it sees Morris dancers and folk musicians on the streets of the town from Saturday to Monday, May 4-6.

The main feature takes place on Monday, with the Sweeps Parade taking place at 2.45pm. It starts from the Star Hill end of the high street and travels along it towards the castle grounds, where there will be a food and drink festival, with folk- and maypole-dancing.

The focal point for the festival is Rochester Castle Gardens, where there will be a live folk trailer stage on all three days, a record fair, an eclectic mix of folk-art stalls, a traditional fun-fair and many catering stalls. There will also be a real-ale bar.

The folk music will be on at the City Wall Stage from 11am until 5pm.

Visit www.enjoymedway.co.uk for details.

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ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

It's full steam ahead (or back) to event celebrating the 40s

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

YOU can celebrate the sights and sounds of the 1940s when a historic railway hosts its annual revival weekend.

The event, organised by Kent & East Sussex Railway, will include fly-pasts by a a Spitfire and a Hurricane.

The Tenterden station will be turning back time to the war years on Saturday and Sunday, May 18-19, with a host of entertainment lined up.

Topping the bill for revival fans will be two separate fly-pasts, as on the Saturday a Hurricane will power through the skies over the venue and on the Sunday a Spitfire will put on a display.

Visitors are being encouraged to turn up in period dress to add to the atmosphere, while authentic vintage clothes will be on display, with some worn by performers and musicians at the event.

While the focus will be very much on the attention to detail around the site, trains will also be ferrying passengers in and out, with tickets including unlimited steam-train travel between Tenterden and Bodiam stations.

Music from the Cinque Ports Lindy Hoppers and Lady Ella will keep visitors entertained with the sounds of the 1940s.

There will be a range of civilian and military vehicles, privately owned and fully restored, on display, while the inside of a Second World War Anderson air-raid shelter is being re-created.

Period fire-fighting demonstrations will be carried out by the Fire Service Preservation Society, vintage clothes from the 40s and 50s will be on sale, there will be a display of wartime kitchen memorabilia, cooking demonstrations and exhibits from the nearby Lashenden Air Museum.

Tickets are priced at £16 for adults, £15 for senior citizens, £11 for children aged three to 15 and £45 for a family including two adults and up to three children or one adult and up to four children.

For more information, you can visit www.kesr.org.uk, email enquiries@kesr.org.uk or phone 01580 765155.

Paul McCartney to introduce cinema screening of Wings

THE first full UK screening of a rockumentary following Paul McCartney's Wings around the United States is being shown at Bluewater.

The concert-film Rockshow followed the Beatles legend and his new band around North America in 1976 and features 30 songs from concerts at New York, Seattle and Los Angeles.

It will be shown at Showcase Bluewater on Wednesday, May 15, at 7.30pm and features an interview with McCartney to introduce the film.

Wings were formed by McCartney and his wife Linda, drummer Denny Seiwell and guitarist Denny Laine in 1971.

They went through several line-up changes, including three new guitarists and four drummers, before splitting in 1981, having achieved 12 Top 10 UK singles, including, in 1977, Mull Of Kintyre, which spent nine weeks at No 1.

Tickets are available now from the box office, at www.showcasecinemas.co.uk, via the Showcase mobile app or through the 24-hour ticket hotline on 0871 220 1000.

General tickets are priced at £12, with students paying £9 and Insider members £7.

They're still birds of a feather

BIRDS OF A FEATHER trio Pauline Quirke, Linda Robson and Lesley Joseph are heading to Bromley with their show.

Based on the BBC sitcom, it will be played at the Churchill Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, June 18-22.

Birds Of A Feather ran for almost 10 years until 1998. Set in Chigwell, Essex, it chronicled the misadventures of Sharon Theodopolopoudos and Tracy Stubbs (Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson) and their man-eating neighbour Dorien Green (Lesley Joseph).

Tickets are available by phoning 0844 8717 620, or online at www.atgtickets.com/bromley.

You can visit www.birdsontour.com to find out more about the show.

Spitfire Flypast!*

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Our Southern at War weekend is taking place on
Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May.

We have many different events taking place at each of our stations and we are delighted to announce that on each day there will be a Spitfire flypast at Horsted Keynes Station.

Southern at War programme available with full listings of exhibits and timings of events £2.00 available in advance from the Sales and Information Office at Sheffield Park Station and the Travel Centre at East Grinstead.

* Spitfire flypast subject to weather conditions

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Learn how to handle your own bird of prey

YOU can learn all about falconry as part of a five-day course at Leeds Castle.

The course will be led by the castle's head falconer Mark Brattle and include everything you need to know about the ancient art and leads to a qualification as an approved falconer.

During the week, the falconry team will teach you how to feed, care for and handle a variety of birds to enable you to approach bird-training with confidence.

The course will also demonstrate all the practicalities, from how to choose and look after the right bird for you to basic bird first-aid.

The week-long itinerary also includes learning the rich history of hawking and practising handling techniques and flying skills across the castle parkland with Harris hawks.

It runs each day from 10am-4pm and includes a hot lunch. Advance booking is essential.

Visit leeds-castle.com/falconry or phone 01622 767861 for details. The course is priced at £550.

Go behind the scenes at theatre for a party day

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THEATRE Royal Margate is throwing open its doors for visitors to get a behind-the-scenes look at its operations as part of a community day.

The theatre's Party Day will give backstage access and allow theatre-goers to give feedback about its shows, while there is a host of family activities taking place.

The theatre's management group, Thanet Leisureforce, which also looks after the Winter Gardens in Margate, last month merged with Vista Leisure, having worked closely together since 2010. So the open day is also a good opportunity for the venue's new management to get to know its customers.

"It's an amazing venue. There is lots behind the scenes you can get to know about, like how the lighting and sound works," said marketing manager Dean Martin. "Because it is tucked away in a residential area I bet there are people in Thanet who don't even know it's there.

"It's the second-oldest theatre in the country and, technically speaking, we have the oldest stage, because the oldest theatre replaced theirs after a fire."

Party Day takes place on Saturday, May 18. It will include a workshop with the Writing Squad from the Turner Contemporary, led by Sarah Davies and Dean Atta, and drama workshop taster sessions with actor and youth-theatre leader Martin Gibbon.

OPEN DOORS: 'Amazing' Theatre Royal Margate

There will also be a reading and book-signing by Geraldine McCaughrean, author of The Positively Last Performance, a children's story inspired by and based on the Theatre Royal.

Throughout the day, theatre technical manager Jay Thomas will be giving backstage tours, while there will be a series of talks about the theatre's history.

Children can also be kept busy with a treasure hunt around the theatre.

Entry is free. For more details and to check times, visit www.theatreroyalmargate.com or phone 01843 292795/296111.

FAB FOUR

The Old Brewery Store, Faversham
Saturday, May 11
Phone: 01795 542285
Website: www.oldbrewerystore.co.uk
Faversham Model Rail 2013: The second Faversham model railway exhibition is taking place, with up to 15 operating layouts and trade stands to enjoy.

Guildhall Forecourt, Sandwich
May 11-12, 9am-5pm and 10am-4pm
Phone: 01304 612860
Email: mandywilkins@f2s.com
The Sandwich Celebration: Two days of local food and all things Sandwich-related, including the Sandwich of Sandwich competition at the Guildhall Forecourt Stalls.

Brook Theatre, Chatham
Tuesday, May 14, 8pm
Phone: 01634 338338
Website: www.medwayticketslive.co.uk
Alex Hutton Trio: The Alex Hutton Trio, featuring Yuro Goloubev on double bass and drummer Asaf Sirkis, will combine big-film scores with folky nuances. Tickets £11.

The Grand, The Leas, Folkestone
May 11-May 27, 10am-5pm
Phone: 07803 189031
Website: www.folkestoneartsociety.co.uk
Folkestone Art Society spring exhibition: More than 250 paintings and works of art will be on display, with the majority for sale. Entrance is free and there is ample parking on The Leas.

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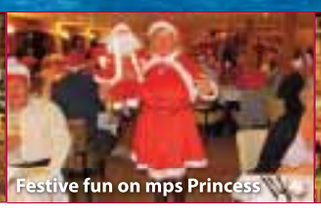
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mps Princess

Back by popular demand, the mps Princess - exclusively chartered again by Good News Holidays - will host us in comfort and style.

Affectionately nicknamed *'the ugly duckling'* here at GN Holidays - the mps Princess has a very fine interior indeed accommodating just 100 guests in comfort and style. There is a cosy lounge-bar and restaurant, all with panoramic views. Dinner is a real highlight with 4 courses served at your table each night.

All cabins are outside, twin berth with private facilities, TV, telephone and heating. All decks - 2 inside and a sundeck - are accessible by stairs or stairlift.

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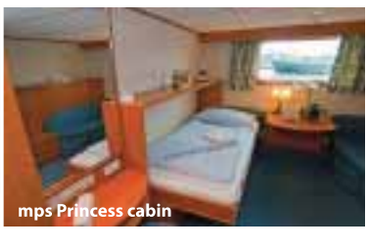
Cruise in comfort and style with almost everything on board included: beer, wine by the glass, Dutch spirits & soft drinks served at lunch & dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar - PLUS - breakfast, lunch, afternoon cakes, dinner and late night snacks.

mps Princess

mps Princess restaurant


mps Princess cabin

mps Princess lounge

To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

Sometimes you can believe what you read on the internet

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

With the internet acting as a constantly-updating source of information, the reputation of any individual or business often precedes them. That's not always a positive, but I can say that the East Coast Dining Room in Tankerton served me a meal justifying its good online name.

The team behind the successful Three Mariners at Oare and the lively Anchor Inn in Faversham come with a history of atmospheric venues offering very good food.

So the opening of the modern-styled eatery in Tankerton's now-flourishing high street should be music to local culinary fans' ears.

The menu, scheduled for "the week commencing", instantly feels fresh and progressive.

Out came bread with oil, salt and butter, followed by an appetiser of miniature savoury choux buns filled with Gruyere cheese – no charge – which was a delicious mouthful to ease the tough task of choosing from the menu.

To start, and recommended by the waiting staff, I chose the slow-braised pork belly with kimchi and vegetable spring rolls.

The heat and spice of the succulent pork contrasting with the cool, marinated vegetables of the kimchi gave the taste buds something to think about – very nice. My guest went for the

black pudding with warm poached rhubarb and watercress salad. The black pudding was rich and flavoursome, while the rhubarb had disappeared before I had a chance to steal any.

We were accompanied on the Wednesday evening by a very large group of visitors on the other side of the restaurant, which can often be a tall order for the kitchen when there are others to serve, but there was no delay in our orders and the front-of-house staff were friendly and attentive. A large bowl of creamy chowder decorated with mussels and pieces of salmon was topped with a piece of cod. The light and tasty fish sat on a bed of buttered Swiss chard and made for an excellent dish at a reasonable £16.

At the other end of the table arrived a slow-roasted shin of beef accompanied by horseradish mash, roast carrots and parsnips in onion gravy.

The small venue is still able to create a good atmosphere and it is a pleasure rather than a chore to wait for dessert with the sound of happy clients bouncing off the walls.

An iceberg pavlova arrived, topped with poached pears, warm toffee sauce and Chantilly cream. The presentation was excellent and the pavlova was light, crunchy and not over-filling.

My guest went more traditional with a crème brûlée sided with poached rhubarb and shortbread biscuit

Three courses for two people came out at £59.50 before drinks. There was no added service charge, allowing guests to tip as they chose.

They do all the right things, they offer a great service and the menu is brilliant. As reputations go, the team at East Coast Dining Room should have theirs enhanced further.

Joe Bill

■ **East Coast Dining Room, 101 Tankerton Road, Whitstable (phone 01227 281180; email book@eastcoastdiningroom.co.uk)**

Monkshill Farm shop is ready for business

HAVING provided highly-rated meat and eggs to Kent restaurants for a considerable time, Monkshill Farm near Faversham will be now more accessible to the locals who first discovered them all those years ago.

Monkshill Farm has finally opened a farm shop, making it more reliable for potential customers passing by looking to get their hands on quality beef, chicken, lamb or pork.

Monkshill Farm is owned by the Royal School For Deaf Children Margate and runs a strong educational centre, offering work placements for youngsters wanting to get into the farming community or looking after animals. For more details, visit www.johntownsendtrust.org.uk.

Are you ready to take a cheesy challenge?

CHEESE connoisseurs should get down to The Coastguard pub in St Margaret's Bay this week as its famous cheese night returns.

World-renowned cheese expert Juliet Harbutt will be there on Wednesday, May 8, from 7pm, with the evening including a tasting selection from the forthcoming summer menu, followed by a Tutored Cheese Extravaganza, pitting Britain against the rest of the world.

There will be a Cheese Challenge to test what you have learned. The evening includes several courses for £25 per head (£20 per head for groups of four or more). Booking is essential – phone 01304 853176.

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Guys Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 60109

(T&C's below)

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071**

APRIL, lovely 21yrs old curvy girl seeks mature male to nurture me in every way, looks unimportant, must be experienced. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 403931**

JAYNE 44 bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011**

CLAIRE looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993**

GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTM n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799**

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTM loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787**

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779**

DOG lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417**

MALE 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTM lady. Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295**

DISCREET kind man sought by married lady, must be discreet and reliable as am I. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 355785**

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101**

LADY 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093**

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773**

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

FEMALE young 60, petite, outgoing, sociable, looking for someone special to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403423**

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

DANCE partner sought by lady beginner in ballroom and Latin American dancing, ideally 55 plus, to visit local dances for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401333**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481**

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769**

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353**

PICK AN ADVERT AND MAKE A DATE TODAY!

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275**

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761**

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759**

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

JOYCE 82, widow, seeking man who is fun loving and good humoured for meals out, 60-70's. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659**

SHAY 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341**

JACQUELINE widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397**

SHARON 37yr old size 10 attractive feminine blonde, divorced with OHAC, seeks nice male who like me is fed up with being on their own. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403351**

KATHY genuine good/young looking lonely female, fit with good figure, seeking man to fall in love with, enjoy adult companionship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403349**

VICKY petite size 16, attractive, caring, genuine and very much single, likes varied interests, WLTM kind genuine N/S male 40-55yrs for dates hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403343**

DEBBIE 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, likes life, fit, active, seeks male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393065**

LOUISE blue eyed pretty brunette, size 12, OHAC, professional, enjoys good conversation, looking for someone to make me happy again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403335**

BLACK African lady, late 30's, no ties, likes country walks, gardening, cinema, seaside, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393272**

MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

MARY 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

Men Seeking

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Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 60109

(T&C's below)

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537**

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

GARDENER 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115**

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729**

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013**

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455**

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211**

SWANSEA man, 51, 5ft 6ins, slim, seeks slim female for nights in/out, company, walks, talks and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402033**

PRETTY petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

PETE 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, own hair, seeking attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

GRAHAM 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

TALL 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531**

TONY retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481**

TONY 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729**

BLACK British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641**

ROBERT medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

5FT 7ins white male, 50, N/S, looking to settle down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401897**

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTM female for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easy-going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402531**

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497**

AVERAGE male, 50's, large build, broadminded, OHAC, GSOH, naturist novice, smoker, seeks petite/medium build lady for relationship. Must be uninhibited, broadminded and mature. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401887**

Gay Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to **60109** for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. **(T&C's below)**

Go online - www.localgay-date.co.uk

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

BI male, senior, clean-shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393**

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249**

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147**

BI guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093**

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male, any age for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401915**

Friendship

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621**

STRAIGHT male, 39, Medway, seeks pals for socialising, likes pubs, cinema, golf, table tennis, football. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398421**

MEN TEXT FOR FUN!

*see t&c's below. No meetings implied or guaranteed. **Texts cost £1.50** per message Help Desk: **0844 445 7707**

I am an attractive and warm hearted girl who is always up for a good talk.. to broaden my horizons. **Text BETHANY to 60109**

LIFE isnt about waiting for the storm to pass, its about learning to dance in the rain so i intend to boogie hard!!! **Text KERRI to 60109**

OK so I'm single, have been for way to long now and thought I'd start talking to men again Not really sure what to expect?? **Text INGA to 60109**

I love life and **I** love living life. I enjoy the outdoors, travelling, restaurants, laughing, going to cultural events, Letd get chatting. **Text LISA45 to 60109**

LOOKING for honest ppl. love going out n haveing fun. im a happy go lucky person always got a smile on my face **Text LISA45 to 60109**

Basically I'm a fun person. I'm outgoing, confident, and live life to the full.**Text KATRIN to 60109**

YOU dont stop laughing because you grow old, you grow old because you stop laughing. **Text JENNY23 to 60109**

I'M a chilled out individual who enjoys socialising . I'm looking for a guy with a gsoh, who can make me laugh **Text DANIELLA to 60109**

MMMMM me??? Im down to earth with a cheeky sense of humour and enjoy spending time with family and friends! ! **Text JONNA to 60109**

JUST waiting for the right guy. Are you the one? How about we find out if you're the one. Send me a message and I'm sure to reply.! **Text CHESKY to 60109**

Fun, bubbly, happy go lucky, single, mummy, work hard, play hard, friends, family, horse, gym, wine, movies, random nights **Text VALERY to 60109**

FUN loving,sensitive shy but extrovert, naughty but nice. very stubborn and strong willed which is why i need a real man **Text EMMA27 to 60109**

I like talking to new ppl!!! i like funny guyz sum1 tht can hold a gud covo...**Text IDA to 60109**

WOMEN TEXT FOR FUN!

*see t&c's below. No meetings implied or guaranteed. **Texts cost £1.50** per message Help Desk: **0844 445 7707**

IM a positive person with alot of ambition and drive for life, im looking for like minded people, who dont take life too seriously **Text MIKE to 60109**

TO REPLY TO ADS WITH TEXT THE BOX NUMBER TO SHORT CODE 63222. i.e. TEXT: **123456 to short code 63222**

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Take a look at our members!

When you see a symbol, this mean the member has a photo. Text **PIC397**(space)the advertisers mailbox number, and send to 88833* to receive it straight to your mobile.

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Text your solo picture along with your 6 digit mailbox number(space)4 digit pin No. under your photo, to 0779 366 6363. Or email: support@jmediauk.co.uk with your Mailbox & pin number.

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Freight boosts rise in Eurotunnel profit

Eurotunnel has released figures showing an 8 per cent rise in revenues to £203 million for the first three months of the year compared with 2012.

Jacques Gounon, chairman and chief executive of the company that runs car and freight shuttles to the Continent, said the period had been "marked by a severe winter, a difficult economic climate and the absence of the positive leverage brought by the London 2012 Olympic Games".

The good results were achieved in spite of the snow and general bad weather that hit traffic over the early part of 2013, causing daytrippers and holidaymakers to rethink travel plans

However, he said a boost from freight had helped push up revenues.

Eurotunnel also saw a record number of vehicles board its shuttles in the quarter, with 10,600 cars and 131 coaches travelling by Le Shuttle from Folkestone to Coquelles on Good Friday alone — the most traffic in one day since the opening of the Channel Tunnel.

Port of Dover hit by contractor worries

Steelworks company Rowecord, which has the contract to repair a major berthing point at the Port of Dover, has gone into administration.

Some 430 staff at its Newport headquarters in Wales will lose their jobs.

However, port authorities in Dover insist that work to replace berth six is already advanced and remain confident they can get the work completed.

A spokesman for the port said: "The port's main concern at this time is for the staff of Rowecord and the many local contractors involved in the project.

"As such, the port is seeking early discussions with the administrators, Grant Thornton, in order to secure the completion of the project using, wherever possible, the assigned local contractors as previously planned."

About 80 people will be kept on at its Newport site, which built the roof of the Olympic aquatic centre.

The company said it had "exhausted every option" to try to continue trading.

If you have a business story, **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. Telephone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**
Follow us on Twitter @KOSbusiness

Disputed £120m development 'is attractive to major retailers'

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

DEVELOPERS behind a £120 million redevelopment of Gravesend town centre have been given the go-ahead by council chiefs.

The scheme will see a hotel, shops and flats built in the Heritage Quarter.

And it has already been given a boost by a number of major retail chains confirming they would look to make a move to the area.

The plans have been put forward by developer Edinburgh Hourse and were narrowly given a stamp of approval at a special meeting of Gravesham Borough Council's regulatory board on Tuesday night.

The company says the project will create 900 jobs and contribute £8 million in spending to the local economy every year.

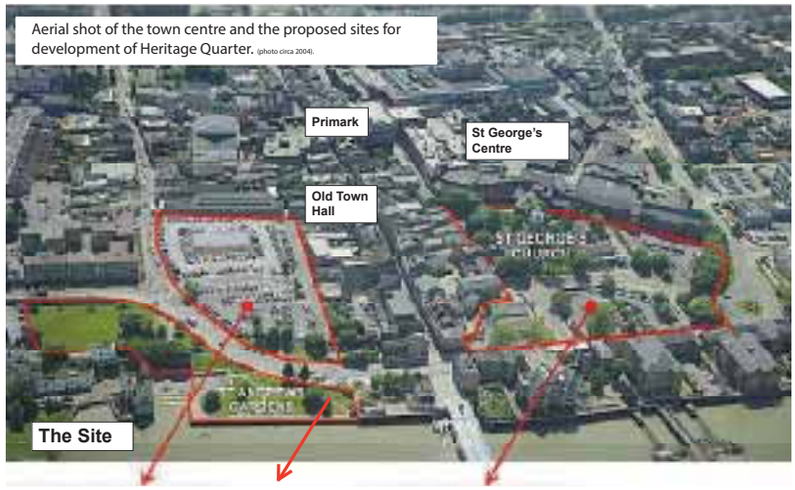
Included in the proposal are plans to build some 330 flats, shops, a landscaped riverside garden and a 50-bedroom hotel in the West Street, Bath Street, Royal Pier Road and Queen Street area.

The first phase will see three buildings, with 141 flats, restaurants and an underground car parks built within nine months. A new town square is to be constructed, replacing the car park next to the market off Queen Street.

However, the proposals have been controversial, with opponents saying the flats are too small for family use and the development will have an adverse effect on the character of the area.

In 2010, initial plans were turned down by the council, but the developer says it has subsequently revised its plans after widespread consultation with local groups.

About a year after phase one of the project starts, a detailed application for the second phase will be made that includes more homes, redesigned grounds for St George's Church, a church hall fronting West Street and the St George's shopping centre enlarged.



Aerial shot of the town centre and the proposed sites for development of Heritage Quarter. (photo circa 2004).

The scheme was approved by the regulatory board after almost four hours of deliberations.

Members were split, with three abstaining, three against and three in favour. The chair, Jane Cribbon, cast her vote in favour.

Tony Quayle, managing director of Edinburgh House, said: "English Heritage recently gave the designs their support, which I am delighted about. A huge amount of research, planning, designing and consultation has helped produce these designs. They are modern and attractive, yet they respect and are inspired by local heritage.

"Lots of thought has gone into the finer details of the designs, too. We've incorporated a number of environmental features, from charging points for electric cars to green roofs, renewable energy, high-quality insulation to recycling and water-efficiency processes."

The developers say they have been in discussion with major retail brands that have expressed an interest in basing themselves in Gravesend including Next and River Island.

Edinburgh Heritage said: "Attracting back mainstream fashion retailers and family-friendly restaurants has always been a key aim as both areas are under-represented in the town and will bring back shoppers to Gravesend."

Richard Hughes, development manager, said: "I am thrilled these big high-street chains show interest. It's always been our aim to reignite retail in the town with fashion brands and family restaurants.

"It's key to attracting people back to the town and creating the right mix of shops and leisure.

"Gravesend is an ideal location for high-street brands to create a vibrant place to live and visit."

Discovery Park opens doors to businesses 35 and 36

TWO new companies have opened for business on the former Pfizer site, Discovery Park in Sandwich.

Finance company Investaco and Alliance Business Communications Limited have both set up offices on the 220-acre site, taking the total number of businesses on site to 36.

Investaco managing director Jim Cook said: "We are currently experiencing rapid growth and are thrilled to announce the extension of our services into estate planning and wills.

"We have taken on a number of new staff to help with deal with the increased workloads.

"We are so confident in our development we have space reserved for future expansion and are looking forward to welcoming clients to our new offices."

Investaco said it was looking to further boost its team and was recruiting for positions.

Alliance Business Communications Limited has moved its sales operations to Discovery Park.

David Smith, managing director, said: "From our new headquarters, we look forward to servicing our existing customer base while continuing to grow our business.

"We are also embarking on an ambitious expansion plan with the launch of an exciting new product that we are bringing to market in the second quarter of 2013."

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TEAM: Bases include Manston

A HELICOPTER firm that recently secured a deal to provide a search-and-rescue base at Manston airport is offering apprenticeship opportunities.

Bristow Helicopters, which also provides helicopter services to the offshore-energy industry, will be offering roles such as engineering apprenticeships, cadet-pilot training and business posts.

It made headlines when the Department of Transport awarded it the search-and-rescue (SAR) contract for 10 bases across the UK, including Manston, starting in April 2015.

There will be 10 apprenticeships within its SAR operation, with successful candidates based at its 10 bases.

While applications are open to people from across the UK, the company has expressed particular interest in hearing from those local to the 10 SAR bases.

Tour of college facilities at Bromley campuses

BROMLEY College is holding open days during May, giving visitors the chance to tour the facilities, get careers advice and meet students and teachers.

The first open event takes place on Wednesday (May 8) from 5.30pm-7.30pm at its Orpington campus in The Walnuts.

There then follows an opportunity to tour the Bromley campus in Rookery Lane on Tuesday, May 21, between the same hours.

Visitors do not need to book.

Hopeful designers get call to enter contest

FASHION students are being urged to take part in a national competition to find the top young designer.

The Young Fashion Designer UK contest is being coordinated in the county by Kent College Pembury in Tunbridge Wells, which is urging youngsters to showcase the exceptional work they have produced at GCSE, AS, A2, BTEC and IB level.

Entries must be in by the end of the month. To enter, visit www.kent-college.co.uk.

IN COLOUR: An all-expenses-paid trip will end up with students displaying their works at an exhibition

Art students inspired by scholarships in Cyprus

SIX students from the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) at Canterbury have flown to Cyprus after winning all-expenses-paid scholarships to further their studies.

The BA (Hons) fine-art students will spend a month at Cyprus College of Art as part of the European Commission's Leonardo Da Vinci programme.

It funds practical projects in the field of vocational education and training. Initiatives range from those giving individuals work-related training abroad to large-scale co-operation efforts.

The six students – Chioma Ahunanya, Ashley Willson, Nariscia Henriques, Rachael Murray, Jenny Wu and Aleksy Marcinow – flew out last weekend and will finish the trip with a public exhibition of their artworks.

Rachael Murray said: "As soon as I had heard about the scholarship I knew it was an excellent opportunity that I didn't want to miss out on.

"My work often documents my experiences and surroundings, so using Cyprus as new inspiration and source material would hugely impact and develop my art practice.

"Studying abroad will also allow me to experience a different culture, environment and way of life and I'm certain it will challenge my way of thinking and encourage me to create fresh artwork."

The scholarships became available to UCA students through the connections of UCA lecturer and internationally-renowned artist Anthony Heywood, who said: "I have a long-established relationship with Cyprus College of Art through Professor Stass Paraskos, who was head of painting at UCA Canterbury in the 1970s and 80s and went on to found Cyprus College of Art.

"The benefits of studying and exhibiting internationally are significant for the students in order to gain the professional experience of different cultures, galleries and arts organisations, which can all make a strong contribution to their development."

UCA offers a range of study-abroad opportunities through the Erasmus programme.

Students can spend a semester abroad at one of its partner universities in Europe or complete a work placement, of a minimum of three, in one of the participating countries.

Meanwhile, in another success story for a local students, Zoe Clarke, 17, who studies applied science at the Medway campus of MidKent College, has won an opportunity to work alongside some of the greatest minds in the country.

She is one of just four college applicants in the county to have earned a highly sought-after Nuffield Research Placement.

Administered by education charity the Nuffield Foundation, the placements provide more than 1,000 students each year with the opportunity to work alongside professional scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

MP becomes academy teacher for a day

SITTINGBOURNE MP Gordon Henderson joined a national initiative to become a teacher for the day last week.

The Conservative politician joined 60 public figures in launching Teach First's national campaign, Every Child Can, designed to inspire youngsters in the classroom.

Leading figures from the worlds of business, politics, media and entertainment all traded in their day job for the classroom, with those taking part including London Mayor Boris Johnson, fashion designer Giles Deacon and TV historian Dan Snow. The focus was on those from low-income families.

Every Child Can was a week-long campaign, run by charity Teach First, which aims to shine a spotlight on the urgent need to end educational inequality in the UK.

On Friday, April 26, Mr Henderson, MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, taught a classroom of Year 7 students at the Isle of Sheppey Academy.

Mr Henderson said: "We are lucky we have teachers who are committed to raising the educational attainment of our pupils.

"I hope to raise awareness of educational disadvantage and the challenge that some children in our country face."

QUITE BIT OF SHOPPING: Sevenoaks has seen the biggest drop in consumer shopping since the recession began in 2008

Families keep tight grip on purse-strings as our young keep on spending

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

CONSUMER spending in Kent has plunged 13 per cent since the recession started, according to new figures released by Barclays.

This is less than the regional average of 14 per cent and calculated by looking at spending now, compared with the last quarter of 2008.

Sevenoaks was the hardest-hit area of the county with a 19 per cent drop, followed by Faversham and mid-Kent at 17 per cent. Tunbridge Wells and Dover both fell by 15 per cent.

Most resilient in Kent were Sittingbourne and Sheppey with a fall of 7 per cent and Rochester and Strood with a fall of 9 per cent.

A study of age ranges shows the under-20s have kept spending at the highest level, with families the most frugal.

Dan Godsall, Barclays director for the South East, said: "A real reduction of 14 per cent across the South East before even taking into account inflation shows it has been a difficult period for consumers, whose household budgets have been squeezed to cope with rising costs."

Barclays undertook the research to get an idea of spending patterns so it can tailor finance packages for customers.

Business growing... click by click by click

Additional research by the financial giants revealed almost all UK online companies have experienced growth in the last three years.

The research from the Barclays Technology, Media and Telecoms industry team saw half of those questioned having produced double-digit growth in the last three years.

Barclays Online Business Outlook 2013 revealed the average online company surveyed experienced 11.4 per cent compound annual growth over the last three years.

With the UK economy growing just 0.2 per cent in the same period, the online sector is growing at a rate of 57 times faster.

Online business outlook over next 12 months:

64 per cent optimistic about growth prospects
4 per cent pessimistic about growth prospects
48 per cent optimistic about the UK economy in 2013
13 per cent pessimistic about the UK economy
35 per cent say increased competition is biggest threat they face

New app pinpoints a gap in leisure market

A HUSBAND-and-wife team are hoping a new online venture will help them benefit from the boom in demand for user-generated traveller guides.

David and Sarah Hughes have launched what they describe as a "social discovery platform" called Fiz that combines listings, reviews, travel information, photographs and maps for places worldwide – all sourced from existing online outlets or based on first-hand experience.

Based in Golden Green, near Tonbridge, and available as an app or through its fiz.com website, it gives users access to telephone numbers, weather, tweets and UK traffic updates by collating data from across the web.

Mrs Hughes said: "We got the idea because we were finding it difficult to pinpoint the various things which come together to make somewhere special.

"The information was all out there, but it was not all in one place.

"So we wanted to build a platform that will allow users to get the most of their trips and leisure time by seeing exactly where is most appropriate for their lifestyle."

The couple hope it means rather than using separate apps for the likes of TripAdvisor and Google maps, Fiz will bring everything together under one roof – and one that is available for both Android and Apple devices.

Mrs Hughes said: "Users can add places to the platform and rate existing places – telling others what the locations are 'great for', a unique way of helping them find destinations based on the things they like to do.

"They can also add their own reviews, ratings and photographs to places listed on Fiz."

Mr Hughes said: "At its heart, Fiz is a community, developing a network of content that brings places to life and that will, in time, create a system where quality information is held for everyone to benefit from."

ON THE MOVE: Sarah Hughes (above) with husband David have designed the new 'social discovery platform' Fiz

David Hughes: Has experience of the travel and technology markets, having worked at a number of digital agencies and transformed the technology roadmaps of a number of travel-industry heavyweights.

Sarah Hughes: Has a background in digital media and the charity sector. In 1998, she designed the first online donation portal and later helped create the first charity e-banking service.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Administrators called in to failing ferry firm

TRANSEUROPA, the Ramsgate to Ostend ferry operator, has gone into administration.

The company, established in 1998, employs about 25 people at its Thanet offices and operates passenger and freight services.

The administrators have been called in to the company headquarters in Belgium amid fears that the most recent payments due to staff will not be made.

Millbrook takes over at Marden garden centre

THE Millbrook Garden Company has taken over the running of the Highgrove Garden Centre in Marden.

The deal took just two weeks – from the initial meeting through to the completion – and was brokered by Tunbridge Wells law firm CooperBurnett.

It brings the number of centres run by the company to three.

Canterbury welcomes Whitehead Monckton

MORE than 100 business people helped law firm Whitehead Monckton celebrate the opening of the firm's Canterbury office at its premises in the city's Watling Street.

Partner Robert Coombe will lead a team that will include specialists in a number of fields including commercial and property law, private client work, family law and rural business.

Haulage growth good news at Port of Dover

THE Port of Dover has recorded traffic growth for the first quarter of 2013 as numbers of road-haulage vehicles increased by 6.7 per cent to 518,979 year-on-year.

Spokesman Tim Waggott said: "We are a robust long-term player in the cross-Channel market and, as evidenced by our ongoing £85 million investment programme, we expect to be successfully operating in the years to come."

Lydd airport expansion is promoted in Dubai

MANAGERS of Lydd airport are flying to the Middle East to attend the Dubai Airport Show 2013, where they will be promoting plans for an extended runway and new terminal to more than 200 companies from 32 countries.

The event at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre showcases the latest technology and solutions from around the world.

New director on board at South East Water

SOUTH East Water has appointed Paul Rich as a non-executive director. He replaces Robert Weeden, who has stepped down after five years' service.

The utility provider's managing director Paul Butler said: "His experience of advancing customer-focused improvements will provide a creative contribution to the continuing development of the company."

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First GEAR
MOTORING NEWS

- Is new Range Rover the ultimate sport SUV?
- Skoda takes over driver satisfaction poll
- Carens completes the Kia revolution

Vauxhall raises the roof with Cascada release

Driving

Powered by motors.co.uk

drive24.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PEUGEOT has had several goes at matching the greatest hot-hatch of all, the 205GTi.

But somehow the 206 and 207 equivalents never quite lived up to the original point-and-shoot machine.

And one gets the impression that Peugeot UK insiders had become a little frustrated about these inferior efforts, begging Peugeot HQ in France to either get it right next time or not bother.

Well, they bothered and it feels like they got it right with the new 208GTi, even if first impressions of the newcomer are less riotous than they were for the 205 sportster.

By this I mean the 208GTi has less external showiness and the exhaust note is quite muted, but times have changed on this front and I suspect many buyers won't be as young as those for the 205GTi – they couldn't get the insurance nowadays.

So the new car is probably aimed more to suit the tastes of those who want to recapture their days at the helm of the 205 or were just a bit too young then but aspired to that joy.

They will like how it looks less brash – you cannot be accused of being a boy racer – cleverly disguising how the 208GTi can have you grinning with its ability to reel in a clear and twisty road; the grip is huge yet, like its forebear, it can be pushed back smartly into line if it does scrabble.

Peugeot has tweaked the already-impressive 208 chassis and created a winner that is aided and abetted by the low-emission (139g/km CO_2) 1.6-litre petrol engine.

This revs beautifully and is mated with a slick, quick six-speed gearbox to create the type of combination that wooed the 205GTi-lovers.

It's worth noting, though, that the 205 never had to cope with 200bhp – even the flagship 1.9-litre model never developed more than 126bhp – yet the 208GTi plants this enormous power for a supermini through its front wheels without a hint of a bucking steering wheel as it races from 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds.

That's impressive and hints at why this new car may soon be rated as highly as its forerunner, even if there isn't the sales volume to be had in the modern market.

For the 208GTi is a proper hot-hatch for the small percentage of the time a keen driver can drive fast and safely but also has all the comforts and toys required for the vast majority of a driving day when we are bunched in traffic.

The ride is amazingly smooth for a car of such handling and grip; the cabin is highlighted with red stitching and sporty features yet as comfortable and spacious as we've already seen on the 208 range.

The pride of the Lion brand is back.

FIRST DRIVE

PEUGEOT 208GTI

Price: from £18,895
Driving appeal: ★★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★★
Value: ★★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★★
Reliability: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★★
Best rival: Ford Fiesta ST

Return of the Lion's pride

WORTH THE WAIT: The excellent 208GTi means Peugeot has finally produced a worthy successor to the popular 205GTi of yesteryear

DON'T LIKE

... the wait we've had for a genuine 205GTi successor, but the result is excellent. It's an attractive car for all driving situations and well-priced too

NOT SURE

... out and out petrolheads will drool over it. There's not enough kidney and teeth jarring perhaps, and it lacks a barking exhaust note

REALLY LIKE

... the overall package, combining l'essence de 205GTi with modern sensibilities and comfort, low emissions and 47.9mpg (combined cycle).

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Spark model shown is 1.2 LTZ

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range (includes Camaro, Corvette and Volt): Urban - 13.1 (21.6) - 313.9 (0.9), Extra Urban - 26.2 (10.8) - 217.6 (1.3), Combined - 19.5 (14.5) - 235.4 (1.2), CO_2 emissions 342g/km - 27g/km.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 208 GTi are: Urban 34.4 (8.2); Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7); Combined 47.9 (5.9). CO_2 emissions 139(g/km).
^On the Road prices quoted include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty and £55 Government First Registration Fee. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

MOTORING

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Open-top style without the bling

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SOME of the best-selling convertibles in the UK used to be those from Saab.

Under-stated yet still premium, they were bought for wind-in-the-hair motoring and style without suggesting a weakness for bling or posing. But Saab is no more and this gap in the convertibles sector went unfilled until now, with the arrival of Vauxhall's smart new Cascada.

Hang on, though, isn't Vauxhall part of General Motors, the American conglomerate that bought Saab and presided over its catastrophic decline, even if not its demise?

Er, yes. An awkward PR issue, that, but, moving swiftly on, the Cascada is a cracking effort built on the Vauxhall Astra platform, so it handles and rides well.

But it is some 20cm longer than Vauxhall's ubiquitous hatchback, with a sleek and elegant body drawing on the brand's now familiar and distinctive design, as launched by the Insignia.

But it's still a Vauxhall: would-be posers will be put off by the Cascada's mainstream branding, past Saab lovers being an exception – unless still feeling bitterness against GM.

For despite Vauxhall's heroic efforts to shift upmarket, its big market share and company-car image make it hard for consumers – especially snobby badge-conscious ones – to see the brand's increasingly sophisticated and well-wrought cars as anything more than everyday.

Which is a shame, as the Cascada is far from everyday and much better than the old Astra Twintop – Vauxhall's last drop-top effort.

On the face of it, the Cascada is a backward step from that car thanks to its fabric roof rather than the TwinTop's sophisticated folding hardtop, but it's the best 'ragtop' I've seen apart from that of the Bentley GTC I also drove recently – a car costing about six times more.

You might demand that the expensive Bentley's roof insulates you from noise just as well as a solid roof, but I don't think you'd expect it from the Cascada's.

The fabric roof also means that the Cascada's looks are not compromised by the need to bridge the shortest possible gap above the passengers' heads – something of an issue with Peugeot's rather awkward-looking 308CC.

The result is one of the most elegant convertibles on the road, roof up or down, without boot-space being horribly compromised when the roof is fully retracted and stowed automatically beneath a neat rear deck.

Inside, Vauxhall has reaffirmed its upmarket ambitions with a well-arranged and robust dashboard, plus smart leather seats on the flagship Elite model tested here.

And there's decent accommodation for both rear passengers, with good legroom for this type of car and rear seats that are not absurdly upright as in some other four-seat convertibles.

On the road, you are quickly aware that this is a convertible designed as such from the ground up: the Cascada feels taut, with in-built strength and weight to compensate for the lack of a solid roof, having been engineered in rather than simply bolted on afterwards.

The result is a version of that Astra mix of sharp handling and good ride quality, encouraging thoughts of long journeys or weekends away in the Cascada – hopefully with rain absent and the top down throughout.

The only caveat is that keen drivers need to keep the revs up on the 140PS (138bhp) turbocharged 1.4-litre petrol engine tested here; only with the turbo spinning away can you really extract the best from the Cascada, so some buyers might prefer to check out the all-new 170PS 1.6-litre petrol option or the powerful yet economical 195PS 2.0-litre diesel biturbo launched recently in other Vauxhalls.

VAUXHALL CASCADA ELITE 1.4: £26,095

STYLISH: Vauxhall's Cascada is a convertible for drivers who don't feel the need to pose, with excellent design and sophistication making it worth your consideration

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£135/year
Best rival:	BMW 1 Series convertible

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First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS

The ultimate sports SUV?

LAND Rover has priced its second-generation Range Rover Sport from £51,500, with order books now open.

Two diesel engines and a supercharged 5.0-litre V8 petrol, all with eight-speed automatic transmission and stop/start technology, are offered on a car touted as "the ultimate sports SUV" – fast on-road but also having Land Rover's off-road capability.

Yeti stands at drivers' peak

SKODA dominated the latest Auto Express Driver Power satisfaction survey: the Yeti SUV was No 1, with the Superb (2nd) and Octavia (6th) also in the top 10.

Best surprise, though, was Alfa Romeo's Giulietta (7th) 'powering' into the reckoning. The other survey stars were: Jaguar XF (3rd), Renault Scenic (4th), Mazda CX-5 (5th), Land Rover Discovery (8th), BMW 3 Series (9th) and Mercedes-Benz E-Class (10th).

Concluding the revolution

KIA'S acclaimed German design guru Peter Schreyer has completed his style revolution at the Korean marque, with the third-generation Carens compact MPV arriving in UK showrooms this week, priced from £17,895.

The seven-seater is a sexier car than its predecessors while adding more versatility. It is available with a choice of two diesels or a petrol engine.

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- 4 New MultiJet engines from 110 up to 180 HP for load carrying efficiency
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- 3 economical engine options
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FIORINO CARGO 1.3 75 MULTIJET FROM **£152 PER MONTH▼**

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Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat Professional range in mpg (l/100km): Urban from 25.9 (10.9) – 64.2 (4.4); Extra Urban from 40.3 (7.0) – 97.4 (2.9); Combined from 33.6 (8.4) – 80.7 (3.5) CO_2 emissions 90 - 222 g/km. Fuel consumption and CO_2 figures are for comparative purposes. †Rental shown based on Ducato Van 35 L3H2 2.3 130 MultiJet on Contract Hire payment profile of 6 rentals in advance. Rentals shown exclude extra cost options, VAT and maintenance. *Rental shown based on Doblò Cargo 1.3 90 Multijet on Contract Hire payment profile of 6 rentals in advance. Rentals shown exclude extra cost options, VAT and maintenance. ▼Rental shown based on Fiorino Cargo 1.3 75 MultiJet on Contract Hire payment profile of 6 rentals in advance. Rentals shown exclude extra cost options, VAT and maintenance. ▲With the passenger seat folded down. Rentals are subject to VAT at statutory rate. Based on 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges apply. Vehicles must be registered with FGA Contracts before 30th June 2013. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Offer correct at time of going to press (04/13) and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. FGA Contracts, PO Box 4465, Slough, SL1 0RW.

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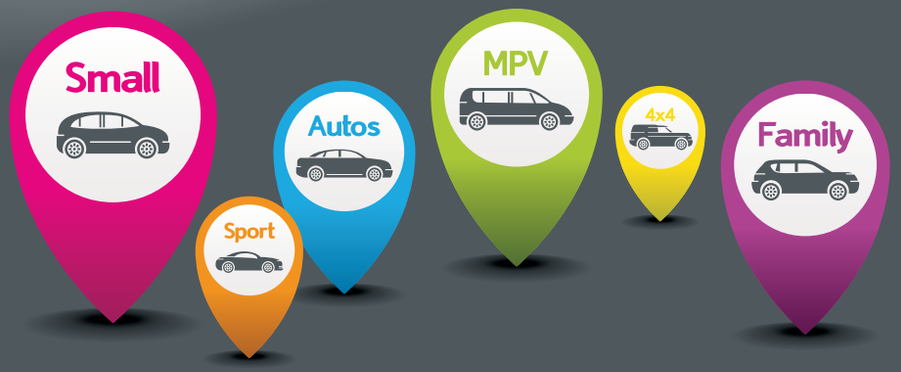

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11 61 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SE 5dr A/C

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11 11	**Vauxhall Astra 2.0 CDTi SE Tourer** Black Sapphire, 35,190 miles		£11,795	
10 10	**Vauxhall Astra VXR 2.0T 3dr** Black, 17,945 miles		£12,495	
12 12	**Vauxhall Astra 2.0 CDTi EcoFLEX 165 SRI S/S 5dr** Black, 14,766 miles		£12,795	
12 12	**Vauxhall Astra 2.0 CDTi SRI Sports Tourer Automatic 5dr** Silver Lake, 16,872 miles		£13,795	
12 12	**Vauxhall Astra GTC 2.0 CDTi SRi S/S** Carbon Flash, 12,886 miles		£14,995	
12 62	**Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi 130ps SRi 5dr** Olympic White, 12,973 miles		£15,495	
12 12	**Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 16V SE 100 PS 5dr** Silver, 15,892 miles		£9,495	
12 12	**Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 SE Auto** Sovereign Silver, 15,016 miles		£9,995	
11 61	**Vauxhall Corsa 1.6 Turbo VXR 192PS Blue Edition** Arden Blue, 12,000 miles		£12,995	
11 61	**Vauxhall Corsa 1.6T VXR 3dr** Arden Blue, 7,018 miles		£13,995	
09 59	**Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi Ecoflex 125 Design 5dr** Black, 49,601 miles		£8,995	
10 10	**Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Exclusiv 5dr** Silver Lake, 37,313 miles		£10,495	
10 10	**Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRi** Black, 28,654 miles		£10,995	
12 12	**Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRi VX-Line** Carbon Flash, 14,825 miles	£14,495	£13,995	£500
11 11	**Vauxhall Meriva 1.7CDTi SE Auto** Technical Grey, 36,354		£8,995	
11 11	**Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 VVTi Exclusiv 100PS 5dr** Technical Grey, 1,742 miles		£9,995	
10 10	**Vauxhall Zafira 1.6 16V Exclusiv 5dr** Silver Lightening, 21,743 miles		£7,995	
10 60	**Vauxhall Zafira 1.8 Life Easytronic 5dr** Panacotta, 31,842 miles		£8,995	
12 12	**Vauxhall Zafira 1.7 CDTi Design Ecoflex** Technical Grey, 10,771 miles		£13,495	

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		WAS	NOW	SAVE
07 57	**Suzuki Ignis 1.3 GL 5dr** Black, 30,500 miles		£3,995	
10 10	**Chevrolet Spark 1.0 Plus 5dr** Blue, 30,600 miles		£4,495	
11 60	**Chevrolet Aveo 1.2 LS 5dr** Grey, 17,751 miles		£5,495	
08 57	**Renault Megane 1.5 Dci Dynamique 5dr** Blue, 48,100 miles		£5,495	
10 60	**Peugoet 107 1.0 Allure 3dr** Black, 25,170 miles		£5,995	
09 59	**Kia C'eed 1.6 Auto 5dr** Silver, 14,004 miles		£5,995	
10 10	**Citroen C3 1.4 VTR+ 5dr** Blue, 27,695 miles	£6,995	£6,490	£505
11 61	**Chevrolet Spark 1.2 LS** Misty Lake, 25,188 miles		£6,495	
07 57	**Renault Clio Sport 2.0 3dr** Silver, 33,846 miles	£7,995	£6,990	£1,005
10 60	**Fiat Panda Eleganza 1.2 5dr** Azure Blue, 5,567 miles		£6,995	
11 11	**Peugeot 207 Sportium 1.4 HDI 3dr** White, 30,155 miles	£8,995	£7,490	£1,505
09 59	**Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr** Silver, 34,000 miles		£7,995	
10 10	**Ford Fusion Zetec 1.4 Tdci** Tango Red, 8,450 miles		£8,295	
10 59	**Mazda 3 1.6 TS2** Velocity Red, 44,584 miles		£8,295	
07 57	**Mini Cooper S 1.6 3dr** Pepper White, 41,737 miles		£9,495	
12 61	**Toyota Auris 5dr Hybrid** Dark Metallic Blue, 22,908 miles	£11,695	£10,990	£705
12 12	**Peugeot 3008 1.6 HDI Active** Hickory Metallic, 16,110 miles		£12,995	
12 62	**Chevrolet Cruze 2.0 CDTi 160 LTZ 4dr** Morrocan Blue, 5,000 miles		£12,995	
10 10	**BMW 118 D Sport Coupe 2dr** White, 31,000 miles		£13,995	
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Hugh Christie Pay Band D (£20,672 - £23,517) full time equivalent.

Hugh Christie Technology College is an 11-18 mixed school in Tonbridge with a reputation for innovation and creativity.

We are seeking to recruit an outstanding individual interested in joining our team as a

Data Manager.

We are seeking a person who can demonstrate:

- a track record of working in a data management role, preferably within a school environment
- excellent attention to detail and ability to work under pressure
- high quality organisational skills and project management experience
- excellent interpersonal skills to liaise with staff across the school
- a strong commitment to professional development and the ability to motivate others

An information and application form is obtainable from Jenny Rutherford (**01732 353544** EXT 240 or email **jrutherford@tonbridgefederation.co.uk**) or by downloading from the school website **www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk**.

Closing Date: **Tuesday 21st May 2013 at noon**

Interviews will take place on **Friday 24th May**

All successful candidates will be required to have an Enhanced DBS check (formerly CRB) in line with safer recruitment guidelines.

Hugh Christie

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THE NEW SCHOOL AT WEST HEATH

Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks, TN8 1SR
"Rebuilding lives through education"

The New School at West Heath works towards helping students develop life skills and enjoy social activities. As a team we share a real desire to set a new, even higher standard of care in education and you can help us achieve this goal. The School has approval status from the Department for Children, School and Families and has an excellent rapport with both parents and the Local Authorities. The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST

Due to our expanding Language and Communication Department, an exciting permanent opportunity has arisen for a suitably qualified and experienced Speech and Language Therapist to work within the environment of HEART (Health Education and Revitalising Therapies).
This new post will be a full time vacancy. This active department receives excellent support from school staff and senior management and provides opportunities for working with secondary age students who the majority have a statement of special educational needs.

SELF SCIENCE TEACHER/CHILD DEVELOPMENT GCSE

Self Science is a subject that we have developed in-house over the course of the past 10 years. Its purpose is to support students develop skills, knowledge, and ways of thinking that enable them to manage themselves and their behaviour increasingly effectively.
The post would suit a qualified teacher who has the skills and passion to inspire children to believe in themselves in ways that have a positive and practical impact on their lives.

We pay national scales, and will determine pay based on previous experience and qualifications.
Application form, Job Descriptions and for further details about the vacancies and our school please visit our website on www.westheathschool.com
or contact lynne.mcgrath@westheathschool.com
Tel 01732 460 553

Closing date for applications 7th May 2013

The successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced CRB check.

The New School at West Heath is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

LLSE LEADERSHIP LEARNING SOUTH EAST

Manager – Strategy and Operations

Salary: In the region £40,000
(pro-rata, negotiable for the right candidate)
Part-time: 0.5/0.6 FTE (negotiable)

Leadership Learning South East (LLSE) is seeking to appoint a Manager – Strategy and Operations to join their expanding senior leadership team. Based in Kent and Medway, LLSE is a partnership of outstanding schools and providers of leadership development who are licensed by The National College for Teaching and Leadership to deliver their accredited Leadership Curriculum.

The postholder will work closely with LLSE's Directors and with the Manager – Curriculum and Standards to ensure school leaders can access the highest quality leadership development. The successful applicant will show passion and commitment to improve school leadership coupled with excellent communication, project management and planning skills. S/he will have experience of working collaboratively in an education environment.

For an application pack contact Sarah Smith on 01634 844008 or by email smiths@sjwms.co.uk
To find out more about LLSE, visit our website: www.llse.org.uk
Closing Date: 10th May 2013 5.00pm.

COASTAL CO-ORDINATOR

Grade E (£21,333 to £26,067) per annum

Shepway District Council, based in Folkestone, Kent, serves a population of 108,000 and covers a district of 140 square miles. The district has a coastline of around 23 miles, stretching from the Folkestone Warren to Dungeness.

The Economic Regeneration team is a small but busy section within Planning Services, which is responsible for a wide range of initiatives and partnerships aimed at improving the economic performance of the district. This includes:

- Dealing with strategic issues, such as producing the District's Economic Strategy and supporting the Planning Policy team in producing the Shepway Local Plan.
- Working with businesses and business representative organisations through the Shepway Business Advisory Board to deliver a series of economic initiatives such as Shepway Apprenticeships and the Shepway Small Business Advice Service.
- Supporting partnerships such as BOSCO+ (Boulogne Shepway Canterbury Co-operation), the Romney Marsh Countryside Programme, the Creative Foundation and the tourism body for the district - Discover Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh, in delivering key initiatives.
- Inward Investment and tourism related promotion and marketing of the district.

As part of these objectives, the Coastal Co-ordinator will play a vital role in ensuring the development and implementation of a Coastal Strategy in collaboration with key partners through a Coastal Forum. The successful candidate will have demonstrable knowledge of regeneration and coastal issues and proven ability to achieve regeneration outcomes.

You will possess enthusiasm, excellent interpersonal and communication skills and ability to effectively present to a range of people including parish councillors, local traders, community groups, sports groups and environmentalists to deliver a range of regeneration and promotional projects as well as bid for external funding.

For an informal discussion about this post please contact Jeremy Whittaker, Economic Regeneration Team Leader on 01303 853375 or Dave Shore, Planning Policy and Economic Regeneration Manager on 01303 853459.

For more information or to apply, please email recruitment@shepway.gov.uk or download an application at www.shepway.gov.uk

Closing date for applications is 30th May 2013.

Interviews will take place 17th June 2013.

Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY
Tel: 01303 853000
www.shepway.gov.uk

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council
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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

oving Access to Kent's Countr

ty Council (KCC) has reviewed its Countryside
ent Plan and produced a draft document for pub
n. The purpose of the plan is to increase the usa
of public rights of way, open green space and c
Kent. The county has around 4200 miles (6700k
h act as a gateway for visitors and residents to
itage, wildlife and iconic landscapes.

of successful projects have been delivered throu
uch as new routes to schools, off-road cycle rou
access for horse riders. The aim is to increase a
of off-road routes for recreation and as a health
ntally friendly way to complete day to day jour
these projects can be found on the Countryside
the County Council's website. KCC works clos
nes, interest groups and communities to deliver
they are useful and relevant for the local comm
so support recreational tourism and access to he

e draft Countryside and Coastal Access Improv
log-on to www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess
links. There is a questionnaire to complete and
are welcomed. Any comments should be return
ovided by the 26th June 2013.

alks, cycle rides, horse riding routes
plete list of all parks and open spaces
to www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent.
so follow @explorekent on Twitter.

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

J G BURBRIDGE trading as BURBRIDGE HAULAGE of San Jan Joh, Court Road, Walmer Deal, Kent CT14 7RQ is applying for a licence to use Rose Farm, Haine Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5AG as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 1 trailers

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE (LICENSING ACT 2003)

Notice is hereby given that

N. KAMBANG & K. TAMLING has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT of PREMISES LICENCE for Off sales of alcohol and recorded music: Monday - Saturday 9.00-21.00, Sunday 10.00-18.00

for the premises HIMALAYAN GURKHA MINI MARKET situated at 33A BANK STREET, ASHFORD, KENT TN23 1DQ

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 22 / 05 / 2012

Dated this 24th day of April 2012

Signed Tamling

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000). Under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Head of Faculty - Business and Social Science ***Reference: P031***

£23.44 - £27.22 per hour
(Dependent on Qualifications and Experience) - Medway

Title: Head of Faculty - Business and Social Science
Salary: £46,119
Location: Maidstone Campus

Role: MidKent College is a large and successful College operating on two main campuses serving Medway and Maidstone. The College was graded 'good' overall with 'outstanding' Capacity to Improve at its last Ofsted inspection. Since then, success rates have continued to rise and the College achieved its best ever results in 2012. The College benefits from having outstanding financial strength and a management team committed to ensuring that all students enjoy an exceptional learning experience.

Following the retirement of the current post holder, MidKent College requires a committed, inspirational and enthusiastic leader for the well-established Faculty of Business and Social Sciences at our Maidstone Campus. Within the newly developed campus, with state of the art facilities, the Faculty includes A Levels, Access, Business and IT. This is an ideal opportunity for a dynamic and progressive individual who would like the challenge of leading an already successful Faculty to even greater things.

Closing Date Midday 23rd May 2013

To apply please contact **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk** for an application pack.

MidKent College and RBLI Employment Solutions are working in partnership to support disabled applicants. For assistance please contact RBLI on 0800783114 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk

To apply please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk for an application form.

The College is committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.

MidKent College

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CCL LABEL

CCL Label (Ashford) Limited is the UK headquarters of the European Healthcare division of a global Company; operating to ISO9001:2000 and delivering high quality packaging solutions primarily to the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries.
We are currently recruiting the following within our Ashford Plant:

Quality Control Technician - Ashford

This is a challenging and rewarding role ideal for an enthusiastic, and dedicated individual who has a strong commitment to ensuring the needs of our customers are attained.
Key tasks include:

- In process quality checks and quality sign off of finished product
- Upkeep of quality control systems
- Maintenance and development of Internal complaint systems
- Conducting internal audits of systems and processes
- Working and reviewing Standard Operating Procedures
- Developing and promoting GMP in both office and factory environment
- Reporting and liaising internally on quality requirements and issues

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PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//13/00551/FUL: Gate Cottage, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, CT4 5NP Erection of a timber framed and cob infill workshop/studio and weather boarded car port. **Applicant: Mr Bleazey** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00672/FUL: 12 Hackington Road, Tyler Hill, Hackington, CT2 9NF Erection of conservatory to rear. **Applicant: Mr Goode** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00688/FUL: 14 Nelson Road, Whitstable, CT5 1DP Single-storey rear extension and replacement windows, erection of replacement garage and alterations to boundary including provision of new gates. Revised scheme in respect of the replacement of a mono-pitch roof extension to a parapet flat roof extension with Victorian-style roof lantern only. **Applicant: Mrs Fitzgerald Vitelli** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00689/FUL: Ground Floor Flat, 26 Brunswick Square, Herne Bay, CT6 5QF Replacement windows to front and rear to ground floor flat. **Applicant: Ms Towner** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00692/FUL: 26-28 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, CT4 7RX Front ground-floor extension and replacement side extension and internal alterations to No 26. Pitched roof over converted garage to front of No 28. **Applicant: Mr Samuell and Mrs Fell** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00727/FUL: 9 Willow Way, Chestfield, CT5 3JJ Proposed ground floor extension to kitchen area and proposed loft conversion comprising raised ridge height, front gable and dormer to rear elevation. Re-submission following withdrawn application CA/12/02008. **Applicant: Dr Brown** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00741/LB: 34A St Dunstans Street, Canterbury, CT2 8BZ Replacement of six box sash timber windows. **Applicant: Action on Hearing Loss** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/00748/FUL: Motorists Centre, Island Road, Hersden, Sturry, CT3 4JD Demolish the existing building and remove the existing south access to Island Road. Access onto The Firs to the north east will be retained. Erection of a new three-storey building comprising 10 No one and two bed flats. Twelve parking spaces are to be provided. **Applicant: Geko Developments** Reason: Major development.
CA//13/00750/FUL: Wenbrook, Reynolds Lane, Marshside, Chislet, CT3 4EJ First floor extension to form two-storey dwelling and construction of single-storey annexe attached to Wenbrook. **Applicant: Mrs Shepherd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00754/FUL: 148 Mortimer Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5DX Change of use of No 148 Mortimer Street from hairdressers/beauty salon (Use Class A1) to a cafe/restaurant (Use Class A3) to be adjoined with existing cafe/restaurant at No 150 Mortimer Street and change of use of first-floor flat at No 148 Mortimer Street from hairdressers/beauty salon to a self-contained residential apartment. **Applicant: Beano's Café** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00761/LB: Waltham Court, Kake Street, Waltham, CT4 5SB Changes to internal layout and drainage alterations. **Applicant: Mrs Yolande Barnes** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/00765/LB: Folly Farm, Headcorn Drive, Canterbury, CT2 7FF Application for a new listed building consent to replace CA/10/01477/LB for alterations to existing outbuilding to form two-storey dwelling (to be annexed to existing farmhouse) in order to extend the time limit for implementation. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs G Lawrence** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/00766/FUL: Owletts, Molehill Road, Chestfield, CT5 3PD Conversion of storage space over garage into habitable accommodation and extension of rear dormer. **Applicant: Mr Geehan** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 27 May 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 3 May 2013

Folkestone

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0377/SH - 51 Augusta Gardens Folkestone Kent CT20 2RS - Change of use and conversion of lower ground floor storage area to form two self-contained flats, replacement of garage doors to front with window/door panels, erection of new retaining wall to front with balustrade and steps, and external alterations.

Y13/0357/SH# - East View Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Retention of existing 1.2m high fence to rear of garden perimeter.

Y13/0381/SH# - Yew Tree Lodge Church Road New Romney Kent TN28 8EY - Felling of a Holly tree situated within a conservation area.

Y13/0315/SH* - Granville Stone Street Westenhanger Hythe Kent - Erection of detached two storey dwelling and detached garage.

Y13/0375/SH# - The Britannia Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Retrospective application for the continued display of 2 double sided freestanding display boards, 1 roof mounted sign, together with other traditional sign writing upon the building.

Y13/0397/SH# - West Beach Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Installation of an escape door and Juliet balcony in the south-east facing gable at first floor level.

Y13/0229/SH+ - Broad View Hillside Street Hythe Kent CT21 5EJ - Erection of a two storey side extension and alterations to garage.

Y13/0365/SH# - Vine House 62 High Street Lydd Romney Marsh Kent - Erection of a single storey detached dwelling and detached garage (alternative scheme to that submitted under Y13/0029/SH).

Y12/1145/SH# - Romney Sands Holiday Village The Parade Greatstone Kent TN28 8RN - Use of Holiday Park for year round holiday occupation.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 20 MAY 2013.

SW/13/0244 & SW/13/0245:
Removal of 4 no brick courses to 4 no ground floor windows, enlarge window openings, lower external ATM's so wheelchair accessible. Internal floor slab lowered 300mm in localised area - 79-81 High Street, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0373:
Replacement front door, replacement windows, and installation of 10 black pv panels to roof - 42 Briton Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0409:
Variation to condition 5 of approved SW/11/1560 to the following: "The use hereby permitted shall be restricted to the hours of 5 am to 6 pm Mondays to Fridays including deliveries and dispatches and 7 am to 2 pm on any other day" - Brogdale Farm, Brogdale Road, OSPRINGE; **REASON 3**

SW/13/0415 & SW/13/0457:
Change of use to 4 one bedroom flats with demolition of existing single storey side extension and construction of proposed two storey rear and side extension - Pier Toll House, West Street, SHEERNESS; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0422 & SW/13/0423:
Replacement and widening of dilapidated rear garden gate and erection of new shed/summerhouse - 89 Abbey Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0434:
Retention of junior/training track (also known as "the mini track" - Sittingbourne Speedway, Marsh Bank, Old Ferry Road, IWADE; **REASONS 2, 3, 4 & 6**

SW/13/0435:
Use of land for the holding of a maximum of 14 public/league speedway events between 1st April and 31st October including up to 2 Sundays per month in addition to the lawful use and use of central grassed area for youth football training - Sittingbourne Speedway, Marshbank, Old Ferry Road, IWADE; **REASONS 2, 3 & 6**

SW/13/0439:
Removal of replacement of existing shopfront - Boughton Village Store, 156 The Street, BOUGHTON; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0450 & SW/13/0451:
Internal and external alterations, replacement of boiler room with utility room, replacement of corrugated iron roof with tiled catslide roof at steeper pitch - Cambridge Farm, Cambridge Lane, LYNSTED; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0458:
Variation of condition B2 to encompass design revisions (including parking and ATM revisions) - Land West of A249, Neatscourt, QUEENBOROUGH; **REASON 3**

SW/13/0464:
Change of use from business (B1) to nursery (D1) - Unit 2B Ground Floor, Eurocentre, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0481:
Two storey side extension and internal alterations and new window to rear elevation - Pear Tree Cottage, South Street, BOUGHTON; **REASONS 1 & 2**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/13/0212/N - ANGLESEY COTTAGE, EAST STREET, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1HJ - Application for listed building consent to replace front door. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0475/S - HILLVIEW COTTAGE, CHART HILL ROAD, CHART SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3RQ - Retrospective application for erection of entrance gates and walls, and proposed erection of a Victorian lamp post. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0490/S - HAYLE MILL, HAYLE MILL ROAD, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6JW - Retrospective Listed Building Consent application for internal revisions to the vat room, water wheel rooms and the drying loft within the Listed Hayle Mill Museum. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0541/N - RUMWOOD GREEN FARM, SUTTON ROAD, LANGLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3ND - Retrospective application for the retention of polytunnels and a proposed change of use of land for the storage of 17 additional seasonal and general workers caravans with limited occupation during winter period. **Reason: 1 6**

MA/13/0553/N - BARN COTTAGE, BOXLEY ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3DN - Listed building consent is sought for the insertion of 3no conservation roof lights to north sloping roof and 1no to the east facing slope together with the insertion of a window to the front western elevation and partitions on the first and second floors to create 2no bedrooms and a bathroom. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0586/N - 15A, GABRIELS HILL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6HR - Retrospective listed building consent application for installation of UPVC double-hung sash windows to replace decayed softwood double-hung sash windows at first and second floor level on front elevation. **Reason: 2 3**

MA/13/0588/S - SMITHS CROFT, SMITHS HILL, WEST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0PG - Extensions/alterations including demolition and reconstruction of north end of house, ground floor extension, external alterations, erection of a two-bay garage and alterations to access, fencing and gates. **Reason: 1 2**

MA/13/0589/S - SMITHS CROFT, SMITHS HILL, WEST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0PG - Listed Building Consent for extensions/alterations including demolition and reconstruction of north end of house, ground floor extension, external alterations, internal alterations, removal of staircase and alterations to boundary treatments. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0595/N - ABBEY FARM, BOARLEY LANE, SANDLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3BT - Erection of a single storey oak-framed orangery extension. **Reason: 1 2**

MA/13/0600/N - FORMER LILY SPICE RESTAURANT, STOCKBURY VALLEY, STOCKBURY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME9 7QN - Change of use from restaurant (Class A3) to vehicle sales (sui generis), alterations to existing building and formation of display area. **Reason: 7**

MA/13/0617/N - ABBEY FARM, BOARLEY LANE, SANDLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3BT - Listed building consent for the erection of a single storey oak-framed orangery extension. **Reason: 2 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.
7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **19th May 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 5th May 2013.

To place you notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817056

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/00970/HOUSE **Old Eaton Oast Goddards Green Road, Benenden**
- New windows and doors, new front landscaping, internal alteration, new summerhouse (LB)

13/00973/LBC **Old Eaton Oast Goddards Green Road, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent: New windows and doors, new front landscaping, internal alteration, new summerhouse (LB)

13/00679/OUT **Land Adjacent Portobello High Street, Brenchley**
- Outline: Scale, Access and Landscaping not reserved - Detached dwelling with access and landscaping (LB) (CA)

13/00814/FUL **Dormers 9 Nevill Park, Broadwater**
- Installation of flat rooflight, replacement of dormer window and installation of dormer window (CA)

13/00919/HOUSE **Kilnwood Church Road, Goudhurst**
- Loft conversion with two dormer windows and four velux rooflights. Ground floor extension to garage with first floor overbuild extension and loft room (CA)

13/00939/FUL **Land Adjacent Three Winds, Goudhurst**
- Demolition of existing redundant farm buildings, workshop and storage. Replacement with five bedroom dwelling and associated landscape works (LB)

13/00966/FUL **Cowbeech Farm Back Road, Sandhurst**
- Replacement dwelling (Amended design to TW/12/02502) (LB) (CA)

13/00463/LBC **Innerdown Langton Road, Speldhurst**
- Installation of a wood burning stove and install cowl to chimney pot (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 04 May 2013

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - DARTFORD AREA

GREAT QUEEN STREET, DARTFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of access to carriageway boxes for cabling, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Great Queen Street Dartford, on or after 12th May 2013 for up to 1 Day between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Little Queen Street to the junction with East Hill.

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions

The alternative route is via East Hill,St Albans Road and Little Queen Street.

TEMPLE HILL, DARTFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of resurfaing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Temple Hill Dartford, on or after 9th May 2013 for up to 6 days between the hours of 19.00 and 05.00 or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Overy Street and Temple Hill Square.

The alternative route is via Mill Pond Road, A226 Home Gardens, East Hill, The Brent, St Vincents Road, Littlebrook Manor Way, Henderson Drive and Trevithick Drive.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) CONSOLIDATION (AMENDMENT NO 13) ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under Sections 1, 2, 4 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984:

The effect of the Order is to introduce:

i) No waiting at any time (double yellow line) restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Dartford: Abbey Road, Alexander Road, Darenth Road, Dene Road, Eynsford Road, Joyce Green Lane, Knockhall Road, Patterdale Road, Teesdale Road;

ii) No waiting at any time (double yellow line) restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Dartford (no changes to restrictions already in place on site): Myrtle Place, Watling Street;

iii) No waiting Monday - Friday 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Dartford: Lunedale Road;

iv) No stopping Monday - Friday 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm on school entrance markings restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Dartford: Lunedale Road, Main Road, Parsons Lane;

v) No stopping Monday - Friday 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm on school entrance markings restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Dartford (no changes to restrictions already in place on site): Heath Lane, King Edward Avenue, Littlebrook Manor Way, St Edmunds Road, Swanscombe Street.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the Order and a statement of reasons for making` the Order, may be examined between 8.30am and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ or at Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

ASH ROAD LEVEL CROSSING, ASH ROAD, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ash Road Level Crossing, Ash Road, Sandwich, on or after 12 May 2013, as shown below.

The planned closure is from Sunday 12 May 2013 at 00:30 hrs until Monday 13 May 2013 at 04:30 hrs.

The alternative route is via Ash Road, A256 Sandwich By-pass, A258 Deal Road, New Street, Cattle Market, Harnet Street, (High Street, The Chain and Galliard Street in reverse) and Strand Street.

RAMSGATE ROAD, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow the demolition of pedestrian bridges as part of the redevelopment of Discovery Park, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, on or after 10 May 2013 as shown below.

Ramsgate Road will be closed in the vicinity of Discovery Park (formerly Pfizer) with no through access between Monks Way and A256 Sandwich Bypass. Local access will remain from either direction up to the point of closure.

Closures are planned as follows

Friday 10 May at 18:00 hours through until Monday 13 May at 06:00 hours

Friday 17 May at 18:00 hours through until Monday 20 May at 06:00 hours

If weather prevents works going ahead on the above dates, the closures will be deferred to one or both of the following weekends - 24-27 May and 31 May-3 June, for the same times.

The alternative through route is via Monks Way, A256 Sandwich Bypass and Ramsgate Road.

SOMERSET ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of bridge repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Somerset Road, Deal, on or after 25 May 2013 for up to 1 day, between 08:00 hours and 20:00 hours.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via Telegraph Road, Cornwall Road and Downs Road.

WHITE HILL, LANGDON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of bridge maintenance works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on White Hill, Langdon, on or after Sunday 12 May 2013, between 08:00 hours and 20:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Solton Lane, A258 Deal Road, Hangman's Lane, The Street, East Langdon Road and White Hill.

WOODNESBOROUGH ROAD LEVEL CROSSING, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Woodnesborough Road Level Crossing, Sandwich, on or after 25 May 2013 as shown below.

The planned closure is from Saturday 25 May 2013 at 00:35 hours until Sunday 26 May 2013 at 04:50 hours.

Woodnesborough Road will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing.

The alternative routes are

Eastbound via Woodnesborough Road, St Bart's Road, New Street, Cattle Market and Moat Sole

Westbound via Moat Sole, Cattle Market, Harnett Street, Strand Street, High Street, The Chain, Galliard Street, New Street, St Bart's Road and Woodnesborough Road.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

A249 SITTINGBOURNE ROAD/DETLING HILL AND OTHER ROADS AT DETLING/THURNHAM/STOCKBURY (NO STOPPING OR WAITING, SPEED RESTRICTIONS & TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting traffic speed, the regulation of traffic and the use by traffic as described below. The order shall come into operation at times when required on 25th/26th/27th May 2013 and 12th/13th/14th July 2013 and 24th/25th/26th August 2013.

This Order also prohibits traffic travelling at any speed greater than 50mph on the northbound carriageway of Detling Hill/Sittingbourne Road between the existing permanent 50mph speed restriction 407 metres north east of its junction with Scragged Oak Road to the Detling Aerodrome Approach Road.

SCHUDLE

1. Traffic in excess of 40 mph shall be prohibited as follows:-
   - (i) On Detling Hill, Detling/Sittingbourne Road, Thurnham/Stockbury between the existing permanent 50 mph speed restriction at a point 480 metres north east of the junction with Scragged Oak Road to the turning for Detling Aerodrome Industrial Estate on the north east bound carriageway and from the former Lily Spice restaurant on the south west bound carriageway.
   - (ii) Traffic in excess of 50 mph shall be prohibited from the former Lily Spice restaurant to the right hand turn into Detling Aerodrome Industrial Estate and then prohibited to 40 mph to the top of Detling Hill.
   - (iii) Traffic in excess of 40 mph shall be prohibited on Sittingbourne Road/Detling Hill, Detling/Thurnham/Stockbury in both directions between its junction with the M20 roundabout (junction 7) and the M2 roundabout (junction 5).
   - (iv) Traffic in excess of 30 mph shall be prohibited on Scragged Oak Road, Detling.
2. No person shall, except upon the direction of a Police Officer, cause or permit a vehicle to:-
   - (i) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 south west bound into Scragged Oak Road.
   - (ii) Carry out a right hand turn from Scragged Oak Road onto the A249 south west bound.
   - (iii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 northbound into South Green Lane.
   - (iv) Carry out a right hand turn or "U" turn on the A249 northbound at its junction with Rumstead Lane.
   - (v) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Aerodrome Approach.
   - (vi) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Chalky Road.
   - (vii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Church Hill.
   - (viii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Honeycrock Hill.
   - (ix) Carry out a right hand turn from Pett Lane northbound onto A249.
3. The alternative routes for traffic affected by 2(i), 2(ii), 2(iii), 2(iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix) above are either:-
   - (i) via the roundabout at junction 5 of the M2 motorway
   - (ii) via the roundabout at junction 7 of the M20 motorway
4. Prohibit waiting and stopping on A249 Detling Hill.

A229 UPPER STONE STREET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to replace a frame and cover, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A229 Upper Stone Street on or after 22 May 2013 for up to 1 night between 23.30hrs and 05.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Mote Road to Old Tovil Road.

The alternative route is via Mote Road, Wat Tyler Way, A20 Ashford Road, Willington Street, A274 Sutton Road, A229 Loose Road. For over height vehicles via Knightrider Street, Mill Street, Palace Avenue, Lower Stone Street, Mote Road, Wat Tyler Way, A249 Albion Place/Sittingbourne Road/Bearsted Road, New Cut Road, A20 Ashford Road, Lord Romney's Hill, Willington Street, A274 Sutton Road, A249 Loose Road.

WATERDITCH LANE, LENHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage improvement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Waterditch Lane, Lenham on or after 20 May 2013 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Warren Street and Rayners Hill.

The alternative route is via Warren Street, Bunces Court Road, Coldharbour Road.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS AREA

WELL HILL, SHOREHAM, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of laying a new water supply to 111 on behalf of Thames Water, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Well Hill, Shoreham, Sevenoaks, on or after

20th May 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside the property known as Achieved. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Rock Hill, Well Hill.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

DARBY ROAD (FOOTPATH), FOLKESTONE (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of resurfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order to prohibit the pedestrian use of the footpath linking Darby Road with Foord Road North, Folkestone, on or after 6 May 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The footpath will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Darby Road, Darby Place, Guildhall Street North, Copthall Gardens, Grace Hill and Foord Road.

NEWCHURCH ROAD, NEWCHURCH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Newchurch Road, Newchurch, on or after 8 May 2013 for up to 3 days, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours each day.

The section of road to be closed is from Newchurch village (the junction with Newchurch Lane / Clarklands, per Google Maps) northwards to the junction with Honeywood Lane / Newchurch Road.

The alternative route is via The alternative route is via Newchurch Road, B2067 Ruckinge Road, Hamstreet Road, Ruckinge Road, Cock Lane, Marsh Road, A2070, Ashford Road and Newchurch Lane.

Further closures of up to 2 days will be needed within 2 weeks of the resurfacing, to re-align covers in the carriageway. This will be notified locally and signposted on site.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

GLENWOOD DRIVE, MINSTER-ON-SEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of electricity cabling works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Glenwood Drive, Minster-on-Sea, on or after 20 May 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Minster Road and Saxon Avenue.

The alternative route is via B2008 Minster Road, The Broadway and Saxon Avenue.

SOUTH BUSH LANE & THE STREET, UPCHURCH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of essential carriageway 'Find & Fix' repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on South Bush Lane and The Street, Upchurch, on or after 13 May 2013 as shown below.

SOUTH BUSH LANE, UPCHURCH will be closed for its entire length, 13 May 2013 for up to 6 days

The alternative route is via A2 London Road, Spade Lane and Meresborough Lane.

THE STREET, UPCHURCH will be closed between the 2 junctions with Poot Lane, from 28 May 2013 for up to 5 days

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

The alternative route is via Forge Lane, Halstow Lane and The Street.

The roads will be closed between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day, and re-opened outside these times.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

ROYAL ESPLANADE, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public during the launch of a fleet of new buses for the Thanet Loop route, Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic on and in the vicinity of Royal Esplanade, Ramsgate, on or after 10 May 2013, as shown below.

Westbound through traffic on Royal Esplanade, Ramsgate, will be prohibited on 10 May 2013, between 09:00 hours and 15:00 hours.

The westbound carriageway of Royal Esplanade will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via B2054 Grange Road, London Road, Pegwell Road and St Lawrence Avenue.

The gaps linking the eastbound and westbound carriageway will be closed opposite the junctions with St Mildred's Avenue, War Avenue and Stancombe Avenue, preventing traffic from these roads turning right into Royal Esplanade.

Waiting will be prohibited on the westbound carriageway of Royal Esplanade.

These restrictions apply when the relevant signs, barriers and No Waiting cones, and do not apply to vehicles involved in the event.

YORK STREET, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new gas supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on York Street, Ramsgate, on or after 20 May 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of number 12, with no through access between the junctions with Harbour Parade and Queen Street.

The alternative route is via Harbour Parade, Leopold Street and Queen Street.

The one-way Traffic Order in respect of York Street will be suspended for its entire length, to allow access from either direction to the point of closure.

The one-way Traffic Order in respect of Queen Street will be suspended between the junctions with York Street and Leopold Street to allow access to York Street.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

HIGH STREET, EAST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a bridge strike monitoring system, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on High Street, East Malling, on or after 7 May 2013 for up to 2 nights between 22.00hrs and 05.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via Chapel Street, Wateringbury Road, Red Hill, A26 Tonbridge Road, A228 Malling Road/Ashton Way, A20 London Road.

LAVENDERS ROAD, WEST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to reinstate a patch in the middle of the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lavenders Road, West Malling on or after 22 May 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via Water Lane, High Street, Swan Street.

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS

CULVERDEN PARK & CULVERDEN PARK ROAD (PROHIBITION OF PARKING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the development of the Kent & Sussex Hospital, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting parking on Culverden Park & Culverden Park Road on or after 6 May 2013 for up to 18 months or until the works have been completed.

The restriction will be between 08.00hrs and 18.00hrs - Monday to Saturday at the locations below.

Culverden Park - from the junction with Culverden Park Road, north side of the carriageway only, travelling westbound for a distance of 95m.

Culverden Park Road - from the junction with Culverden Park south east side of the carriageway only, for a distance of 100m.

LOWER GREEN ROAD, PEMBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install high friction surfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lower Green Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, on or after 25 May 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed adjacent to The Forstall and adjacent to Bulls Place.

The alternative route is via Maidstone Road, A228 Pembury By Pass, High Street, Lower Green Road.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 5th May 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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01303 817056

PLANNING

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00319	Change of use to general industrial (Use Class B2), erection of an extension and two silos **Units 2, 3 and 4, Millyard Way, Eythorne, CT15 4NL**	**MAJ**
DOV/13/00197	Erection of a log cabin to be used as a shop (Use ClassA1) **Delf Nursery, Deal Road, Sandwich, CT13 0BU**	**MAJ**
DOV/13/00309	Erection of two detached dwellings and creation of a vehicular access Land rear of **Land rear of 19-37, Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich, CT13 0AA**	**ARW**
DOV/13/00315	Erection of a single storey rear extension **26 Whitefriars Meadow, Sandwich, CT13 9AS**	**CON**
DOV/13/00136	Erection of a front boundary wall (existing fence to be removed) **112 West Street, Deal, CT14 6EB**	**CON**
DOV/13/00278	Erection of a rear conservatory extension, construction of a bay window and internal alterations **Holly Tree Cottage, Durlock Road, Ash, Sandwich, CT3 2HT**	**LCN**

Reason for Advert Codes:-

CAF - Affects a Conservation Area **ARW** - Affect a Public Right of Way
CON - In a Conservation Area **LCN** - Listed Building in a Conservation Area
LBC - The proposal affects a Listed Building

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Canterbury City Council

Notice is hereby given that the Annual meeting of the Canterbury City Council will be held at The Guildhall, Westgate, Canterbury at 7pm on Wednesday 15 May 2013.

Colin Carmichael
Chief Executive
Canterbury City Council
Military Road
Canterbury CT1 1YW

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Folkestone

PLANNING NOTICE

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13(3) OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND REGULATION 16 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2011 - APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Proposed development at Folkestone Harbour and Seafront, Folkestone Kent

Shepway District Council has received additional information for the following application:

Y12/0897/SH - Outline planning application with all matters (access, scale, layout, appearance, landscaping) reserved for the redevelopment of the harbour and seafront to provide a comprehensive mixed use development comprising up to 1000 dwellings (C3), up to 10,000 square metres of commercial floorspace including A1, A3, A4, A5, B1, D1 and D2 uses as well as seasports and beach sports facilities. Improvements to the beaches, pedestrian and cycle routes and accessibility into, within and out of the seafront and harbour, together with associated parking, accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Members of the public may inspect copies of the additional information at the following locations:

- Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Folkestone during the hours of 8.30 am - 5.00 pm weekdays, except Wednesday 9.30 am - 5.00 pm
- Online at http://www.shepway.gov.uk/content/view/200376/203/. Please allow up to five working days from the date of this letter for the details to be available.

Members of the public can download an electronic copy of the Environmental statement from the above website. However, paper copies can be purchased directly from the applicant on payment of £200.00 for a paper copy or £30 for a CD version at the following address: Mr D Hulme, Folkestone Harbour Company, Port Office, Folkestone Harbour, Folkestone, CT20 1QH.

Anyone who wishes to make representation can do so in writing to the Council at the Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or by e-mail to planning@shepway.gov.uk ensuring you include your full postal address and quoting the application number within a period of 21 days commencing on the date of publication of the notice. We also accept comments on-line at http://www.shepway.gov.uk/content/view/200376/203/.

C Lewis
Planning Manager on behalf of Shepway District Council

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CRICKET

Picture: ADY KERRY

SMOOTH: James Tredwell is happy with how his transition from player to captain has gone at Kent

Tredwell: blend of young and old heads can only be beneficial

KENT skipper James Tredwell hopes to see the county's youngsters continue to flourish under the guidance of their old guard.

Much has been said about the promise of the county's youngsters in the close season, with the likes of Daniel Bell-Drummond, Sam Northeast and Matt Coles among those tipped for stardom, having shown their promise in the last few years.

And they have plenty of experience to follow on and off the field, with a batting and bowling line-up more than capable of aiding their development, which Tredders is keen to see continue.

"We have got some good young heads coming though, with Dan [Bell-Drummond] and Calum Haggett, and Adam Ball has done well in the seconds," he said. "That's important in any team that the older players help the younger ones come through. If the young players have got older players around them to help them bed in, it's beneficial – that's what I want to see happen over the next few years."

The 30-year-old spinner, who is in his debut season as captain at the St Lawrence Ground, having replaced Rob Key in September, feels it has been a smooth transition from player to captain so far.

"On-the-field stuff is fine, and it is the same in the dressing room," he said. "It's about getting used to the other challenges on your time.

"There are different challenges within it. You are the leader, but I have always thought quite deeply on the game and it's just about putting those thoughts into action, really."

It has been a mixed start to the season as they fought out a frustrating draw in the opening game at Leicestershire and withstood some tough bowling for the same outcome at Lancashire in the second game.

"The first game we were probably a bit under-cooked with the ball, so to get those overs in the field was good for us, and at Lancashire we fought hard," said Tredwell. "They bowled well on a tough wicket and we came out of that game with good plaudits – if we had taken our catches, who knows what would have been?

"We were third last year in this division and narrowly missed out in one-day competition – there's not a lot to worry about, I don't think."

Kent play their first Yorkshire Bank 40 game of the season this Bank Holiday Monday against Warwickshire at Edgbaston before trips to Nottinghamshire and The Netherlands, on Wednesday and Friday, in the same competition.

FOOTBALL

Booed by fans but Gills

From winning the Fourth Division to helping build the Channel Tunnel, this

IT was one of the tightest finishes in Football League history, with the old goal-average rule ensuring by a fraction that the Medway towns, and a trainload of Gills fans on their way home from the depths of Wales, partied the night away.

It was the 1963/64 season that broke new ground at Priestfield as Freddie Cox's side battled their way to the title, the club's one and only until that 2-2 draw at home to AFC Wimbledon a fortnight ago secured this year's League Two.

It was a bizarre ending to the season, which Gillingham had spent swapping 1st and 2nd places with Carlisle United at the top of the old Fourth Division, and it was one in which left-back Dennis Hunt played a big part as the Gills became unpopular throughout the division for their defensive style.

Now 75 and living in Saltwood, near Hythe, Hunt is able to reflect on the proudest moment of a career that saw him play 319 games for Gills, 49 of those in the title-winning season, before managing Folkestone, Ashford and Margate.

It was down to the renewed confidence the side were given when Cox became manager in 1961 following his sacking at Portsmouth.

"Freddie Cox came and it was fantastic," said Hunt. "He changed the whole club right around.

"All the little things came to one big thing and it was really good. The training was really good and he got a system based on defence. Whereas teams would go away from home and keep it tight, we would do that at home.

"His philosophy was, if it's 0-0 with five minutes to go it will stay 0-0. We weren't going to go gung-ho to get the winner, and sure as hell they weren't as well. That stayed in everyone's head. We all knew our job. If you wanted to play 'Johnny look at me, I'm good', you couldn't do that – you would be out.

"He was calm, but you knew if he asked you to do something. If he said you were out, then you were out. I took to him straight away."

That functional style saw Gills remain unbeaten at home all season, although they lost nine games on the road. It was not until October that they lost their first game, a 3-1 defeat at title rivals Carlisle. Indeed they picked up eight wins from their first 13 games.

"When we went out on the field, it didn't matter who we were playing – we knew we would win," said Hunt, who in later life helped build the Channel Tunnel. "He [Cox] did it on a limited budget – we conceded just 30 goals. It was fantastic. In the beginning the crowd booed us at home. You get the same old thing of supporters saying 'We don't mind getting beat if they're good footballers', but that's the biggest load of rubbish – you want to win.

"We started to win and gather points, and suddenly we looked and we were higher than we had ever been.

"The gates were really up as well. The feeling I experienced running out in front of a 16,000 crowd on a tight pitch and when they're singing and the music is being played, it would make you run through brick walls."

Hunt was part of a tough defence that included Gills goalkeeping legend John Simpson, who kept 24 clean sheets that season. The uncompromising approach was a trait that Cox instilled in them from day one.

"Cox used to say to me 'Let them know you're there, Dennis, otherwise they'll make you look a clown'. I've had that done to me before. I said to Rodney Marsh one day 'Don't take the mickey, otherwise you'll be up there in row Z – let's just do what we've got to do'."

BALL BOY: Dennis Hunt, above, played in the side that won the Division Four title by the slimmest of margins. It's happy days for the players, right.

Trophy won

GILLINGHAM had two games left to play after every other side's season had finished, owing to postponements in March.

They lost match 44 of a 46-game season at Rochdale on Easter Saturday, leaving them four points behind Carlisle United, who had finished on 60 points.

With four points to play for (under the old two-points-for-a-win rule), Gills needed two wins against York City and Newport County, both away from home.

And to make matters even more complicated, it was going to come down to the old goal-average rule (goals scored divided by goals

SPEEDWAY

Kent Kings geared up for start of new season

SPEEDWAY is all set for a return to the county at Sittingbourne this Bank Holiday Monday.

The Kent Kings team will be competing in the bottom tier of the sport, the National League, and hold their first competitive fixture at the Central Park complex on Monday against the American Touring Team.

The county has had speedway teams throughout the decades, in Sittingbourne, in Canterbury and at Crayford, but not since the 80s has there been a professional side, although there has been and still is an amateur training track at Iwade, just a few miles from Central Park.

Picture: ADY KERRY

NEW ERA: Speedway is back in Kent at Central Park stadium, where new team Kent Kings are based

The stadium will still be used for greyhound-racing, but there is now a dirt track carved out in the central ring for the racing action.

Manager John Sampford is hoping for a big crowd at the 2,000-capacity venue.

"You couldn't get a better arena for it – it's a magnificent stadium and all the facilities we could wish for," he said. "Having missed the sport for 25 years in the county, I will be amazed if it's not a success."

He said the team hoped to make the jump up the divisions but it depended on finances.

"If it's as successful as we hope it will be, maybe we could be up there after two or three years," he said. "Going from this league to the Premier League, the difference in costs is astronomical. To go into a new tier is a big expense, it's massive."

■ **Doors open at 3pm. For more information, you can visit www.kentkings.co.uk.**

title silenced the critics

is the story of Gillingham legend Dennis Hunt, who talks to **Greg Miles**

by slimmest of margins

conceded). They had to win either 3-1 or 1-0 to overtake Carlisle's 1.948 goal average.

And they did exactly that, winning 1-0 on both occasions to secure the title with a goal average of 1.967.

Left-back Dennis Hunt injured himself in the win at York on Easter Monday but played again at Newport on the Thursday of that week, a few dozen Gills fans having made the trip.

"We were up at York City and I got hit on the thigh, so I finished the game up front," he said. "It was the days of no subs. I just limped about and I aggravated it more by being on the pitch.

"We went to Newport for the last game and won 1-0. We couldn't really believe we had done it. The council gave us a bit of a do."

The celebrations took place on the train home, a stark contrast to the pitch invasion against Wimbledon two weeks ago.

"We had a train to catch home because you had to get to London to get to Gillingham," he said. "Everyone was all laughing and coming down the train – the supporters took it over, actually. It was great.

"There are players who have never played in a championship-winning team, never been to Wembley or played in a cup final. But I played in a championship-winning side. I'm proud of that."

LIFE AFTER PRIESTFIELD

Dennis Hunt left Gills in 1968 for Brentford but had to hang up his professional boots shortly after because of knee problems at the age of 30.

He played part-time for Folkestone before becoming manager there and then at Ashford Town and Margate. In total he made 333 career appearances after leaving the Army to take up football at the age of 21.

He also coached in Sweden and over in the United States between working on the Channel Tunnel in the mid-1980s.

He took up the reins at Folkestone Invicta again in the early 90s.

"I thought 'I want to go to America' – that's where people were heading to make a new start," he said. "I thought everything else would be behind me and I could have a go.

"But I went up the Channel Tunnel and the money was so good you couldn't turn it down. I still went to America, though, to Houston and Dallas a year later.

"It was good, but there was something about it I couldn't take to. It was the threat of the gun. I didn't like it. There were so many murders one weekend, they called out the Texas Rangers. There was a curfew, so that anyone under 18 had to be off the streets by 9pm. It left a bad taste in the mouth.

"I came back and went up the Tunnel and worked at Folkestone again.

"I finished up the Tunnel in 1993 and then went to Invicta for a while. We started in the Kent League. We had no money – I was helping them get going.

"When we had the floods here I rang up Harry Redknapp and he brought his West Ham team down to raise money for the town – we had 3,000 watch that game.

"I stayed there until their current manager Neil Cugley took over. I've always been friends with Neil – I signed him at Margate.

"He's done an excellent job, he's done a great job. He was unlucky not to move on."

FOOTBALL

'Substantial' sum paid to HMRC but Fleet still have an uphill battle

EBBSFLEET United director Jessica McQueen is hopeful that the club can survive with continuing payments to HM Revenue & Customs, while there are three possible investment plans in the pipeline.

The club was set a deadline of noon last Monday to pay a £37,000 tax bill or face a possible winding-up order from HMRC. Mrs McQueen said a "substantial" payment had been made but there was still "a mountain" left to climb to keep the club going, with some £20,000 more still to pay.

She also said there was a new investor on the scene in early discussions with the Stonebridge Road side, while Canary Islands businessman Carlos Kabir Karani, who made his interest public a fortnight ago, is still working on his business plan. And a fans group is willing to act as the last line of defence should all else fail.

Picture: ADY KERRY

STRUGGLE: Liam Daish's side finished second bottom in the Blue Square Premier

It follows a tumultuous season at the relegated Blue Square Premier side in which the owner, internet membership group MyFootballClub, last month voted to relinquish its 75 per cent share in the club, with three-quarters proposed to go to fans group the Fleet Trust and the remaining quarter to Ebbsfleet United director Phil Sonsara. That share-transferring process is still ongoing.

Mrs McQueen said progress had been made with payments to HMRC but would not reveal how much had changed hands.

"We made a substantial payment on Monday," she said. "No one is under any illusions that we still have a mountain to climb.

"We don't want people to think that because it is only £20 it doesn't help, because it soon adds up. If we can keep making constant payments through, it shows a willing to pay it rather than just ignoring it. We are putting in 14-hour days at the moment to make sure it works."

Mr Karani revealed last month that he hoped to invest in the club, backed by four investors. He plans to use the club as a platform for young talent from across Europe whom he would attract with his contacts in the game.

"Mr Karani is still in the area and is working on his business plan, which we will have to wait and see," said Mrs McQueen. "One option is a fall-back plan and there is another potential investor, which is in early talks.

"The fall-back plan is being organised by a group who don't want to see the club disappear. It may include people putting in some investment to make sure it continues. They, like us, would far sooner see it get some investment and grow. The other person is somebody totally outside of the club as it is at the moment."

■ **To donate to the club's fund-raising effort, visit www.fleet-trust.co.uk, www.ebbsfleetunited.co.uk, call 01474 533796 or visit the club shop, which is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 5pm.**

SPORTS SHORTS

WORLD SUPERBIKE

Camier pleased just to finish at Assen track

ASHFORD'S Leon Camier completed an amazing return from the serious knee injury he suffered two weeks ago to record two top-nine finishes at the latest round of the World Superbike Championships at Assen.

The FIXI Crescent Suzuki-rider finished ninth in race one and seventh in race two at the Spanish circuit, just weeks after the injury.

"In the first race we changed the set-up dramatically from the warm-up and took a gamble, but then in the second race we changed it a lot again, but this time we made it feel more like the bike I'm used to," he said. "Overall I am happy, even though at the end of the race my leg and body felt as if they were in bits."

ATHLETICS

Bosworth back in the grove with 20km title

TOM Bosworth has regained his national 20km race-walking title with a convincing win.

The 23-year-old from Sevenoaks finished the race in 87 minutes and 49 seconds.

It comes after he set a new personal best and the IAAF World Championships B Standard in Poderbrady in the Czech Republic two weeks ago, meaning he is eligible for the World Athletics Championships in Moscow in August.

Bosworth, who just missed out on selection for the London Olympics by missing the qualifying time by 19 seconds, walked the first part of the race with training partner Jamie Higgins, but in the second half he cruised ahead to claim the title he lost last year.

FOOTBALL

Addicks run riot in cup final against Angels

CHARLTON Athletic smashed seven goals past Tonbridge Angels to lift the Kent Senior Cup.

A crowd of 808 turned out at the Longmead Stadium to watch the county's premier cup competition, which was all but over in the first half on Wednesday night.

The Addicks were three goals ahead in the first 30 minutes thanks to Jordan Cook, Michael Smith and Kevin Feely.

Although the Angels pulled one back early in the second half through Mark Lovell, they could not stop their Championship opposition netting another four, completing the 7-1 rout with three more from Smith and an own-goal from Angels defender Sonny Miles.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO 2 emissions (/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO 2 emissions: 324 - 88g/km.